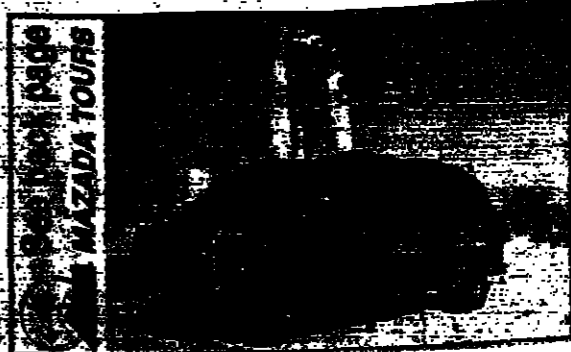


Make international connections
From Israel, just dial:
177-100-2727
AT&T

THE JERUSALEM POST



VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19440

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1996 • KISLEV 16, 5757 • 17 RAJAB, 1317

NIS 4.50 (Eilat NIS 3.80)

In today's Business Supplement

- ★ What's wrong with Swiss banking
- ★ Shoring up Pacific Rim trade
- ★ How to improve the civil service

Money

Crash survivor hospitalized on return home

RAINE MARCUS and BATSHEVA TSUR

"IT'S a shame it had to end like this," were the only words uttered by an exhausted Lior Fuchs, the sole Israeli survivor of Saturday's plane crash in the Comoro Islands, as he was taken on a stretcher from the El Al Boeing 767 which brought him home from Nairobi last night.

Fuchs, whose friend Ya'acov Brown was killed in the crash, was the first passenger to be lifted off the regular flight at Ben-Gurion Airport. He was kept on a stretcher during the journey, with a curtain around him for privacy, following his ordeal in which seven Israeli citizens perished.

Fuchs was met by his father Ori, IDF and Foreign Ministry personnel and swarms of journalists and photographers.

Magen David Adom doctors and paramedics took him directly to Sheba's Tel Hashomer Hospital for medical treatment and observation. His father did not speak to reporters.

According to El Al spokesman Nahman Kleiman, a special El Al flight was due to take off for Nairobi late last night to bring back the seven bodies of the crash victims. The flight is due to arrive here early this afternoon. Following a special request by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, the coffin of the Ukrainian diplomat killed in the crash is to be flown here with them.

Meanwhile, the bodies of the remaining four Israeli passengers on the plane were identified yesterday by members of the Israeli task force at the site.

(Continued on Page 2)

Apparently wrongly convicted murderer freed by court

EVELYN GORDON

THE Supreme Court ordered an apparently wrongly convicted murderer released from jail yesterday, after three other people confessed to the crime for which he was convicted.

Elazar Bengayev, now 22, was sentenced to life in prison last year for the murder of Shalom Weisbohen of Jerusalem, largely on the basis of his own confession, which he has already spent almost three years in jail, as he was held throughout the investigation and trial. His appeal was supposed to have been heard next week.

However, the state submitted an urgent request for Cohen's immediate release this week, after the police obtained confessions for the same crime from three other people.

The police have collected a great deal of [new] evidence which throws a new light on the affair," the state wrote in its request to the court. "Three suspects are currently under arrest, who have confessed to participating in the robbery during the course of which the late Shalom Weisbohen was murdered on January 9, 1994, in his house on Etzcham Road in Jerusalem."

Because of this new evidence, the state asked the court to immediately accept Bengayev's appeal.

(Continued on Page 3)

Official: PM-Arafat summit a must



Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Ariel Mayor Ron Nachman overlook Ariel, where Netanyahu yesterday vowed to continue construction.

BATSHEVA TSUR and HERB KEINON

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is prepared to meet with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat several times in order to finalize an agreement over Hebron, a senior government source said yesterday.

"Ultimately, a summit meeting is necessary, but nothing has yet been planned," he said. "The prime minister has said he would be willing to hold several meetings with Arafat if necessary, but there has to be progress made before they can meet."

Palestinian sources denied last night that there was a connection between a possible summit and the cancellation of a planned visit by the PA head to the Gulf states.

Arafat and senior Palestinian negotiators huddled in conference last night discussing their next move in the talks on Hebron.

The meeting, which began at about 2:30 p.m. in Bethlehem was still in session eight hours later, amid speculation that the participants were working on a way to reformulate the wording of the Hebron agreement concerning the issue of hot pursuit.

Among the participants were Mahmoud Abbas, Yasser Abed-Rabbo, Saeb Erekat and Dr. Ahmed Tibi.

In Oslo, Foreign Minister David Levy said yesterday, at a joint press conference with his Norwegian counterpart, that a summit meeting

Hebron Redeployment



is necessary between Netanyahu and Arafat to resolve the last few outstanding issues holding up the Hebron agreement.

Talks between Israeli negotiators Danny Navet, Dore Gold and Yitzhak Molcho and PA negotiators Abed-Rabbo and Erekat resumed yesterday. The prime minister's advisers reported back to him that the atmosphere was more relaxed, although no substantial progress was made.

Netanyahu vowed in Ariel and Eli yesterday that he will continue to develop settlements, sending a clear message to Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak - who have recently blasted his settlement policy - that he will stand firm.

"And why shouldn't the settlements here be developed?" Netanyahu asked reporters in Ariel. "Is anyone stopping the development of the Arab villages nearby? Am I preventing this? Am I checking them? I think that Palestinians and some Israelis better get used to the idea that we are going to live together."

(Continued on Page 4)

Ottawa ready to probe new list of Nazi war criminals in Canada

STEVE LEIBOWITZ and ROBERT SARNER

FOLLOWING reports by *The Jerusalem Post* and Channel 1's *IBA News*, Canada's Justice Minister Allan Rock says he wants to study the findings of a recent private investigation which uncovered the presence of 157 alleged Nazi war criminals living in Canada.

"I'd be surprised to learn that there were that many people that we've overlooked, given the efforts the government has taken over the last 10 or 15 years," Rock told reporters in Ottawa.

Rock was responding to the revelations that New York detective Steve Rambam had tracked down the Nazis over the past two years and had gathered incriminating evidence on many of them. During his investigation, Rambam met 60 of the suspects, posing as a professor from a non-existent university, and secretly recorded conversations with them about their

wartime activities. "I haven't seen the information the investigators have amassed," said Rock, considered by many to be the first Canadian Justice Minister since the war to take the war criminal issue seriously. "If they wish to share it with us, that would be very helpful. We'd be happy to look at it."

Rock added that within the next few months, the government will launch deportation proceedings against four new suspects in addition to the eight it has moved against since early last year.

This week, Rambam spoke with the Canadian Jewish Congress with the aim of giving them the tapes and other evidence so the CJC can present them to the government's official Nazi hunters.

In addition to national television coverage in recent days, several Toronto and Montreal newspapers

(Continued on Page 9)

Girl from hepatitis-stricken village gets first live-donor liver transplant

JUDY SIEGEL

THE four-year-old girl who yesterday was the first person in Israel to receive a lobe from the liver of a living person, her mother, was one of 70 children in the poverty-stricken village south of Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael to contract hepatitis A since September.

The girl, Liel Jibran, from the Arab village of Jisr az-Zacka, and her mother Fauzia, who gave a part of the left side of her liver, are recovering well at the Rabin

Medical Center-Beitlison Campus and the Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel in Petah Tikva.

The Health Ministry has begun immunizing all village children aged two to six with the active vaccine against hepatitis A.

The disease usually passes without harm, but in Liel's case - a one out of 1,000 chance - liver functioning broke down.

Earlier story, Page 3

Arafat meets settlers

STEVE RODAN

IN the first encounter between the two sides, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat met last night with a delegation of 10 Jewish settlers, including some from the Hebron area, and pledged to examine joint ventures in tourism, education and industry.

Arafat and the settlers met for more than an hour at a Greek Orthodox church compound in Bethlehem, for a discussion that ranged from joint economic projects to security in Hebron. The meeting was not announced in advance, and journalists did not attend.

The settlers, with one exception, did not want to be named and stressed that they did not represent anybody. With them was Yehuda Wachsmann, whose son, Nachshon, was killed by Hamas terrorists in 1994.

(Continued on Page 2)

Thanksgiving Day

Have a generous portion of Thanksgiving turkey served in the best American tradition, and enjoy

FREE BEER

from 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27

NEW YORK, NEW YORK
Genuine American style restaurants
HAIFA, 122 Sd. Hanassi, Tel. 04-8361501
HERZLIYA, 5 Maskit St., Tel. 09-546496
TEL-AVIV, 30 Ibn Gabirol St., Tel. 03-6951641
EILAT, Moon Vally Hotel, Tel. 07-63363280

REGULAR AND PRIVATE TOURS TO JORDAN

1, 2, 3 and 4 Day Organized Tours
• Individuals • Friends • Families
• Small Groups • Large Groups
• Excellent Itineraries
• Guaranteed Departures

Other Tours Available:
EGYPT 2 to 10 day tours SINAI 1 to 4 day tours ISRAEL Daily sightseeing tours

02-6233990

Jerusalem Post Subscription Sales and Service 177-022-2278

NEW, FREE ENGLISH SHARON (09) YELLOW PAGES

The Yellow Pages will be distributed free of charge in the 09 dialing area to all Jerusalem Post subscribers, and at news stands on November 29, 1996.

GOLDEN PAGES
LET YOUR FINGERS DO THE WALKING



سكنا من الصحف

A-G: Border Police anti-Arab violence widespread

VIOLENCE against Arabs by the Border Police is the rule rather than the exception, Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair said in a letter to Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani yesterday.

Ben-Yair based this conclusion on data from the ministry's division for investigating policemen, and a discussion this week with senior ministry, police and border police officials.

"I was convinced that this is indeed a serious and widespread phenomenon," he wrote. "The cumulative experience of the investigators and attorneys shows that we are talking about a phenomenon, rather than exceptional cases."

Ben-Yair noted that 324 complaints were filed against border policemen for violence in 1995, and 264 so far this year. Of these, 21 resulted in criminal indictments last year and another 21 this year, 29 last year and 14 this year resulted in disciplinary charges, and the charges were found baseless in 44 cases last year and 25 this year.

However, the vast majority of cases were closed because of difficulties in collecting evidence. The victims are often not the ones who complain, due partly to the fact that many Arabs in the territories cannot enter Israel, and often either the victims cannot be found or the

EVELYN GORDON

number of people doing compulsory military service there. Professionals, because of their greater age and experience and the fear of losing their jobs, are much less likely to resort to violence. Steps must be taken to increase the number of professionals in the force, he said, but the police must also step up their educational efforts and enforce a rule requiring all border policemen to wear name tags in both Hebrew and Arabic.

The State Attorney's Office, for its part, will try to step up prosecutions, demand stiffer sentences, and ask for more remands, he added.

Ben-Yair said he agreed with the Border Police that part of the problem is the growing

Border policemen who beat Palestinians placed under house arrest

Border policemen David Ben-Abu and Tzahi Shimaya, who were shown beating Palestinians on Channel 1 last week, were placed under house arrest by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday. The court denied the Jerusalem District-Attorney's request that they be remanded until the end of

proceedings against them. However, the decision will not be acted on for 24 hours to give the state time to decide whether to appeal it. The two were released on bail of NIS 15,000, the phone lines to their homes were cut off and they are not to meet with anyone, among other restrictions.



Lior Fuchs, the only Israeli survivor of last Saturday's crash in the Comoro Islands, is carried off an El Al plane last night upon arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport.

IAI crash victims were returning from negotiations on Mig upgrade with Ukrainians

THE four IAI executives in the Ethiopian Airlines crash were returning from Addis Ababa, where they had held negotiations for the upgrade of up to 30 Soviet-made Mig 21 jets in the Ethiopian Air Force. The executives were joined by a four-member delegation from Ukraine.

The IAI-Ukraine effort was the first by Israel and Ukraine in a joint project to upgrade Mig jets. Industry sources said the cooperation was based on Israel's technical skills in upgrading Mig's and Ukraine's large supply of spare parts for the Mig 21.

A key factor in the talks, industry sources said, is the ability of the Ethiopian government to raise funds from international sources to pay for the upgrade. In contrast to the Israeli delegation, three of the four members of the Ukrainian delegation on the Ethiopian Airlines flight survived.

The IAI-Ukraine effort was the first by Israel and Ukraine in a joint project to upgrade Mig jets. Industry sources said the cooperation was based on Israel's technical skills in upgrading Mig's and Ukraine's large supply of spare parts for the Mig 21.

"This was negotiations only," a source said. "The two sides were not ready for signing." Israeli sources said the joint dele-

gation presented its plan to upgrade the Mig 21 and on Saturday took Ethiopian Airlines flight 661 to Nairobi, where it was hijacked. The sources said the hijacking had nothing to do with the Mig deal. IAI executives said the Mig deal with the Ethiopians would have to be reassessed in the wake of the hijacking and airplane crash. The executives on board were familiar with all the details of the negotiations and their replacements would have to learn of what had been achieved so far.

Azzam's family worried, but hopeful he'll be released

THE family of Azzam Azzam, the Israeli Druse being held in an Egyptian jail for spying, said yesterday that he was in good spirits and was being well treated.

His brother Sami, who visited Azzam in the Tura jail on Monday after receiving permission from the Egyptian authorities, said he was in good physical condition.

Samir Azzam said he was in good spirits and was being well treated. He said they had asked the Israeli consul to arrange more visits because "it helps keep us calm, and him."

"We waited in a room and he was brought there to us. He smiled and hugged us and asked about everybody and we said everybody was okay [and] we're fully supporting him," Sami Azzam said yesterday after returning to their home village Maghar, in the Galilee.

"We tried not to show him any emotion because he really felt good and smiled and said things were well and we wanted to strengthen

him," Sami Azzam said. He said they had asked the Israeli consul to arrange more visits because "it helps keep us calm, and him."

Hebron Redevelopment

including the charges that Israel has not granted the Palestinians air space or that Israel has imposed a blockade off the Gaza coast. Shohor said there is no blockade, although the area in which fishing boats are allowed has been reduced.

There is also a disagreement about the charges of Israeli violations at the as yet non-operational airport in Gaza. The Palestinians are demanding overall responsibility there, while Israel claims that it has the same status as other crossings, with ultimate Israeli responsibility.

He said the status of Jewish settlements would be determined by the two sides in the talks on the permanent arrangements. The lack of safe passage routes between Gaza and the West Bank was cited by the Palestinians, although Shohor said this has to be agreed on by both sides.

Senior SLA officer murdered in ambush near his home

A SENIOR member of the South Lebanese Army was killed in an ambush near his home in the Jezzine region late Monday night, as Hizbullah kept up its two-pronged offensive against Israel's ally.

Tony Nahara, 40, who was described as a member of the SLA's security apparatus, was murdered in what appears to have been a carefully-planned assassination.

According to reports from the region, his car was hit by light weapon fire close to his home in Siniya village, in the predominantly Christian-populated Jezzine region.

Shahor: Israel has violated Oslo clauses

including the charges that Israel has not granted the Palestinians air space or that Israel has imposed a blockade off the Gaza coast. Shohor said there is no blockade, although the area in which fishing boats are allowed has been reduced.

There is also a disagreement about the charges of Israeli violations at the as yet non-operational airport in Gaza. The Palestinians are demanding overall responsibility there, while Israel claims that it has the same status as other crossings, with ultimate Israeli responsibility.

He said the status of Jewish settlements would be determined by the two sides in the talks on the permanent arrangements. The lack of safe passage routes between Gaza and the West Bank was cited by the Palestinians, although Shohor said this has to be agreed on by both sides.

The Israel Museum, Jerusalem
mourns the loss of its Founder and long-time friend
HILLEL PICCIOTTO
and extends sincerest sympathy to his wife and family

Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research
mourns the death of
KEREN DISKIN
and expresses its heartfelt condolences to the family

We deeply regret to announce the sudden death of our dear brother
MONTY NEWMAN
in Manchester, England, on November 25, 1996
Deeply mourned by his wife Sheila and children, brothers in England and brother Aryeh Newman and sister Rita Bejeli in Jerusalem.

Waldenberg Family Children's Orthopedic Hospital and Rehabilitation Center, Jerusalem, Israel
mourns the passing of its devoted and dedicated benefactress
CAROLINE WOLDENBERG-HALPERN
President of the Alyn-American Society for Physically Handicapped Children in Israel
Eli Kahan, Chairman of the Alyn Society, Shirley Meyer, MD, Medical Director

NEWS IN BRIEF

Two soldiers hurt near Hebron
Two soldiers were lightly injured last night from two petrol bombs thrown at their patrol vehicle as it drove through the village of Tufah near Hebron. The army said the two soldiers were evacuated for medical treatment. IDF troops launched searches for the perpetrators, the army said.

Probe of alleged hotel bribery
An investigation is under way in France regarding alleged bribery connected to a hotel owned by Yoel Herzog and his partner and father-in-law, Nissim Gaon, Israel Radio reported last night.

Israeli, US coordinate vs. terrorism
Israeli and American experts will meet periodically throughout the year to map a bilateral strategy for combating terrorism, an Israeli official said in Washington yesterday.

Ukrainian president visits Arafat
Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma yesterday visited Bethlehem, where he was treated to an honor guard by Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

CRASH
There were eight Israelis on the plane. Earlier, Shraga Ben-Nissan, managing director of Lahav, Amram Ben-David, IAI's African division head, and Brown, were found dead near the airplane wreckage.

SETTLERS
The participants, who came from the area of Hebron and Gush Etzion reiterated that they would remain in the territories, and hoped that they could live in peace with their Palestinian neighbors.

Jerusalem Post Subscription
Sales and Service 177-022-2278

YOSI PEKING
Glatt Koshur Chinese Restaurants
♦ JERUSALEM ♦ TEL AVIV ♦ ASHDOD ♦
Now open! FASHIONABLE
NEW TEL AVIV RESTAURANT
32 Yehuda St. Tel: 03-544 4466 • Office: 03-546 6264. Fax: 03-544 4763
Listen to Arutz 7, 711 and 1143 AM, 105 FM

Various small advertisements and notices on the right margin, including a crossword puzzle.



Elazar Bengayev, who apparently was wrongly convicted of murdering a Jerusalem beggar, listens to the appeal on his behalf in the Supreme Court yesterday.

FREED

(Continued from Page 1) free him, and return the case to the Jerusalem District Court. Justices Aharon Barak, Yitzhak Zamir and Ya'acov Terkel refused to accept the appeal on the spot, saying they did not want to acquit Bengayev until they had all the relevant information and were sure he was not involved. "This requires a thorough investigation by all parties involved in the affair," they wrote. "Under these circumstances, and until we have the whole picture, we do not think it is appropriate to overturn the lower court's ruling. We would

like to make our decision on the basis of all the information." However, they agreed that the new evidence created a strong enough presumption of Bengayev's innocence to justify releasing him on bail. They set the bail at NIS 200,000. Bengayev's attorney, Yair Golan, said afterwards that an unsparing inquiry into how Bengayev's confession was obtained was necessary. "This cannot be allowed to pass," he said. "There must be a thorough investigation into how a confession was extracted from an [innocent] man."

Knesset continues work on traffic bill, despite gov't opposition

EVELYN GORDON

THE Knesset Economic Affairs Committee decided yesterday to continue work on a bill to combat traffic accidents, despite the government's opposition. The bill, sponsored by 88 MKs, was submitted during the last Knesset. Although it passed its first reading, it was never brought up for final reading because the Treasury said there was no money to pay for its provisions. The new Knesset would like to continue with the bill where the old Knesset left off, rather than starting over from scratch. However, the government once again is objecting to the cost. Initially, the ministerial committee on legislation told the Economics Committee that it would support applying continuity to the bill if the committee would promise not to discuss it or submit it for a final reading for at least 90 days. Yesterday, however, Treasury representative Ofer Linchevsky told the committee that this might

not be the government's final stand, as Finance Minister Dan Meridor has appealed this decision to the full cabinet. "The budgetary implications of the additional policemen [called for in the bill] alone are NIS 250 million a year," he said. In addition to hiring another 1,000 traffic police, bringing the total number of policemen to 3,600 by 1998, the bill would have the government unite all bodies dealing with road safety into one authority, which would have to present a five-year plan for fighting traffic accidents within six months. It would also require road safety to be taught in all schools from kindergarten on, and would require all previously planned improvements to especially dangerous roads to be completed by the year 2000. Committee chairman Elie Goldschmidt (Labor) said he would ask the plenum to apply continuity to the bill despite the government's objections.

Female drivers have fewer accidents than men

Contrary to popular belief, female drivers are less likely to be involved in accidents than male drivers. This is the finding of the Haifa Technion's transportation research institute, which examined the age and sex of drivers under the age of 45 who were involved in road accidents between 1991 and 1994. The study, carried out for the Insurance Companies Association, showed that young women generally behave more responsibly on the road than young men. Their reduced involvement in accidents and, especially, in serious accidents, is also partially explained by their driving fewer kilometers and driving less frequently at night than men. Judy Siegel

Number of work accidents up 50% last four years

EVELYN GORDON

THE number of work accidents has increased by more than 50% over the past four years, Yossi Tamir, director-general of the National Insurance Institute, told the Knesset State Control Committee yesterday. Yisrael Arad, deputy director-general of the institute, told the committee that part of this sharp increase was due to the rapid growth in the labor force over the past four years, caused by mass immigration and the drop in unemployment. Another factor is the growing awareness of "professional ailments," which might not have been considered work accidents a few years ago, he said. However, a third problem is the increasing number of workers who lack proper training, especially in the construction industry, Arad said. Committee chairman Ran Cohen (Meretz) noted that in addition to the pain and suffering such accidents cause, they also cost the economy billions of shekels a year.

Arad said the institute is trying to develop a three-year plan to reduce the number of work accidents. The committee also discussed the State Comptroller's Report on the institute's work accident division. The report found that the division was broke in actuarial terms, as it lacked enough money to cover claims for the next three years. It also found that about 10% of claims were paid one to three years late, that self-employed people were often either under or over-compensated, that some people with temporary injuries continued receiving money seven to 11 months after their payments should have ceased, and that residents of the territories sometimes continued getting payments for as long as seven years after they had died. Tamir told the committee that the actuarial deficit has since been rectified, and that many of the other problems were due to the lack of computerization. The division is supposed to be fully computerized by the end of this year.

4-year-old first in Israel to receive liver lobe from living donor

JUDY SIEGEL

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD girl whose liver suddenly failed was the first person to receive a lobe from a living donor's liver in an operation performed in Israel. The recipient, and her mother - who donated the lobe - were doing well yesterday at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus in Petah Tikva. The family, whose name was not released for publication, was the first to benefit from new Health Ministry regulations allowing close relatives to donate a part of a lung or liver for transplantation in a loved one. Since the regulations, approved by former minister Tzahi Hanegbi, have not yet been officially published, the hospital received special permission to operate.

The toddler suffered from rare complications of hepatitis A that caused her liver function nearly to shut down. She was hospitalized at the Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel, next door to Beilinson, but since finding a child-sized cadaver liver was nearly impossible, her mother decided to donate a part of her own. The multi-disciplinary team included Beilinson's Dr. Eitan Mor, who learned the procedure in the US, and Dr. Natan Bar-Natan, who studied it in Belgium. Part of the left lobe of the mother's liver was excised

using a special technique to ensure that the remaining left side of the organ will continue to function and regrow tissue. The daughter was soon moved to SCMCI's intensive care unit and the mother to Beilinson's transplant unit; she will be able to visit her daughter in three days. Dr. Oded Yurim, a Hadassah-University Hospital surgeon who studied the technique at the University of California at Los Angeles and was instrumental in persuading the ministry to approve it, sent his congratulations to the Petah Tikva hospital. The Ein Kerem hospital has a number of candidates for the surgery, which Hadassah also is allowed to perform.

IMA spurs rejection of British proposal to declare circumcision 'barbaric'

JUDY SIEGEL

A PROPOSAL by the British Medical Association to declare circumcision "a barbaric act that causes physical and emotional harm" has been shelved by the World Medical Association at the initiative of the Israel Medical Association, it was learned yesterday. At the WMA meeting, attended by physicians from 80 countries and held in South Africa a few weeks ago, the British association called for a declaration stating that male circumcision

should not be carried out for medical reasons because of the "harm" it allegedly causes. Circumcision opponents claimed circumcision can cause the loss of sexual pleasure as well as be traumatic for the child. IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar said his organization feared that a resolution disapproving of circumcision for medical reasons would lead in

the future to censure of ritual circumcision as practiced in many countries. The IMA set up a multi-disciplinary medical team that examined circumcision from the medical, psychological and ethical aspects. The conclusions were that surgical removal of the foreskin is not dangerous and even greatly reduces urinary infections and penile cancer. In addition, cervical cancer among female partners of circumcised men is very low.

ACT NOW! SURPRISE CORNER

FLANNEL BEDDING
in choice of patterns

AT 1/2 PRICE

only Single set 79.90 NIS
Set includes: Blanket cover, sheet and pillow case

only Double set 99.90 NIS
Set includes: 2 pillow cases, sheet and blanket cover

2.2.97
New credit until

Offer valid until 30.11 or while supplies last. Details available in the stores.

HYPERCOL SUPER-SOL

Look out for the next surprise ...
Prices listed include 50% reduction.

Also available via **TELE-SAL**
177-022-5656
In those areas served by Tele-Sal only.

ms were
collations
Ukraine

ried, but
released

PEKING

s
d
e
c
e
n
y

d
d
e
a
y-
s-
re
ce
he
is.
ch
en
et,
to

ily
am
the
NS.
I-be
1473
ay on.

TAC
22-6

most

ericas

02./oronto

Airbus

ination

British air.

ly
M

3-26
vacc

y, b
tric
21.1
outh
bea
very
x-tr
1. Co

need
e. Sp

instel
s ur
2. 02

FOU
- of
lar, c
ings
3-1
and

Tichon delays elections for Knesset reps on religious panel

LIAT COLLINS

KNESSET Speaker Dan Tichon decided yesterday to postpone to next week the election of two representatives from the Knesset to sit on the committee which appoints religious court judges. Tichon was answering a request by Coalition and Likud faction chairman Michael Eitan.

MKs from different factions in the coalition popped in and out of each other's offices yesterday trying to reach an agreement on who to propose as the coalition's candidates to the committee.

In the morning, two additional coalition MKs joined the competition for the two spots. Maxim Levy (Geshet-Likud) and Alex Lubotsky (Third Way) joined Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism), Avraham Stern (National Religious Party) and Nissim Dahan (Shas) as potential coalition candidates. MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) has also put himself forward for a place on the

committee.

Levy and Lubotsky have complicated the choice, which was already difficult, because Shas and the NRP have failed to reach a rotation agreement between them to counter the UTJ's candidate.

The coalition has agreed that one of the two representatives must be from UTJ, but Eitan fears that the growing number of candidates could split the vote, and ultimately Gafni would fail to get the post. Eitan convened a meeting of Knesset coalition faction heads yesterday and warned them of a possible coalition crisis should Gafni not be elected, as written down in the coalition agreement. He said the Likud is obliged only to the UTJ, and is not concerned about who the second candidate is. He called on them to reach an agreement among themselves.

"I won't let the coalition break up because of your fighting," Eitan reportedly said.

Lukashenko lures lawmakers to new rival parliament

ANGELA CHARLTON
MINSK, Belarus

BELARUS'S hard-line president moved swiftly yesterday to strip authority from his rivals after winning broadened powers from voters, convening a new parliament that declared the existing one moot.

President Alexander Lukashenko, who now has vast control over all branches of government, immediately prevailed upon the new body to pass legislation withdrawing impeachment efforts against him. Coming just a day after Lukashenko claimed an overwhelming victory in a disputed referendum, the developments confirmed his intention to tighten his iron grip on the former Soviet republic.

Driving a wedge through the parliamentary opposition, Lukashenko successfully lured many deputies away from opposition leaders who have waged a months-long power struggle against him.

More than 100 deputies in a new, pro-Lukashenko body met with the president and declared themselves the actual, working parliament. They promptly passed a law making the results of Sunday's referendum binding, although the new body's legal status remained murky.

"Today is a historic moment," Lukashenko told them. "By passing this law, we are essentially emerging from the con-

stitutional crisis." When he left the hall, he declared: "The crisis is over. I don't think we can doubt the legality of today's events," Lukashenko said. "We won. The people have won."

About 70 Lukashenko opponents who serve in the 199-member elected parliament met for three hours across town in the parliament building. But, lacking a quorum, they failed to take action or come up with any concrete proposals on what their next move should be.

"Those people... are just a group of deputies sitting around talking," said Ivan Pashkevich, one of the lawmakers who defected to the pro-Lukashenko body.

Sunday's vote, which opponents and international monitors say was unfair, changes the constitution to extend Lukashenko's term by two years, until 2001, and give him nearly unlimited powers.

The opposition had said it would press ahead with impeachment efforts in the Constitutional Court. But with

the new body voting later yesterday to withdraw the impeachment bid, that attempt appeared effectively over. "We have made mistakes and now we must recognize that we have lost," said Mikhail Voronovich, an Agrarian member of the holdout parliament. "I suggest that we either disband ourselves or join those who are now forming new power bodies." Tamara Manukova, a Communist, said: "We all need courage now."

The anti-Lukashenko deputies claim vote fraud and said they would not recognize the referendum results. In Washington, the US State Department also criticized the referendum as illegitimate and urged Lukashenko to declare the results non-binding.

Many lawmakers in Belarus had united in recent months in opposing Lukashenko, an aggressive president who has tried to concentrate more power in his own hands. Lukashenko is popular among many Belarusians because of his emphasis on law and order and on restoring ties with Russia that were severed after the 1991 Soviet collapse.

Lukashenko's proposals won 70.5 percent of the vote in Sunday's election, with 84% of the eligible voters casting ballots, according to the election commission.

Yeltsin, recovering, focuses on Chechnya, Belarus

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin, facing a crisis in Belarus and uncertainty over economic policy as he recovers from heart surgery, met top ministers yesterday to discuss another pressing issue - break-away Chechnya.

His press secretary, Sergei Yastrzhembsky, speaking at a Kremlin briefing, declined to comment on a fierce attack by the communist-led opposition over Yeltsin's decision to withdraw all Russian forces from Chechnya.

But he said Yeltsin had discussed the issue with Defense Minister Igor Rodionov and Interior Minister Anatoly Kudikov when he met them at the Barvikha residence outside Moscow.

Yeltsin moved to Barvikha last week after multiple bypass surgery on November 5, and the 65-year-old leader is becoming more active in handling Russia's mounting problems.

One is the furor raised by the communist-dominated opposition in the State Duma, the lower house of parliament, over a deal signed on Saturday by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and the head of the rebel Chechen government, Aslan Maskhadov.

The deal was signed after Yeltsin ordered withdrawal of all Russian troops from Chechnya, including both Defense Ministry forces and Interior Ministry ones.

The opposition insists that both Yeltsin's order and the Chernomyrdin-Maskhadov deal are unconstitutional and will lead to Chechnya's secession from the Russian Federation. The Duma is due to hold an extraordinary session on Friday to discuss the issue.

In Chechnya, up to 5,000 people gathered in the capital Grozny to mark the second anniversary of a failed attempt by the Moscow-backed opposition to storm the city.



Bosnian policemen try to stop refugee women from Srebrenica from attacking cars yesterday in Sarajevo's main street. The crowd blocked traffic at one of the city's main junctions. Thousands of people protested what they said was the international community's failure to honor promises made in the Dayton peace accord, which ended 43 months of war.

KNESSET BRIEFS

Pensioners slam Meridor

After marking special events for children's rights and against the abuse of women, the Knesset yesterday focused on pensioners. In a series of meetings with MKs organized by the Pensioners Union, much of the talks centered on the expected budget cuts. Union chairman Gideon Ben-Israel criticized Finance Minister Dan Meridor calling him "the enemy of the old people" and said pensioners would refuse to fill in declaration of income forms. Liat Collins

Knesset Culture Caucus convenes

Fifteen MKs, representing all but the Haredi parties, have joined the Knesset's Culture Caucus which held its inaugural meeting yesterday. The lobby is chaired by MK Yona Yahav (Labor). He said the caucus intends to deal with issues such as establishing an independent culture authority, increasing the budget for cultural projects, encouraging cultural projects in peripheral areas, and encouraging original local productions. Yahav said the 1997 planned budget entails an NIS 22 million cut for cultural programs. Liat Collins

Arrested Haredim: We don't recognize state

Six Haredim arrested Monday at the Castra excavations on the southern outskirts of Haifa told the Haifa Magistrate's Court they do not recognize the authority of the state, only the Torah. Judge Hinoch Shiloni ordered five of the suspects released on NIS 3,000 bail, and ordered them not to come within 50 meters of the dig site. One of the six had his remand extended. They were accused of interfering with the dig, pushing the archeologists and causing a riot. Antiquities Authority officials said Monday that bones removed at the site are those of Christians buried in the ancient city of Castra. Tim

INDIA

January 16 - February 6, 1997



This English speaking tour offers twenty full days visiting the main sites of this mind-boggling country of nearly one billion souls.

We'll spend time in Bombay, Cochin, Bangalore, Mysore, Madras, Mahabalipuram, Delhi, Jaipur, Agra, Khajuraho and Varanasi.

We'll visit the markets, temples and synagogues, the Taj Mahal, the Red Fort and the Pink City. We'll ride on elephants and sail on the holy Ganges, and visit the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri. We'll fly, and travel by air-conditioned coach and train, all under the supervision of trained local and national guides.

This tour, specially planned for POST readers, enables you to visit this fascinating sub-continent with the experts, in comfort.

The price, US \$3,895, includes all international and domestic flights, train journeys, 19 nights at first-class hotels, half board (vegetarian meals available), no Shabbat travel, and all sight-seeing, excursions and entrance fees in the program, portage at hotels and airports, English speaking local guides and Israeli escort. Single supplement: US \$890.

For reservations and information brochure, contact:

ZIONTOURS Ltd. (ask for Hilary)
19 Hillel Street, Jerusalem 91025
Tel. 02-625-4326. Fax 02-625-5329

Clarke woos British voters with new budget tax cuts

WJC to discuss restitution with Sweden

LONDON (Reuters) - Finance Minister Kenneth Clarke unveiled a pre-election budget yesterday carefully crafted to woo Britain's wavering voters with a one point cut in basic income tax and extra spending on schools, hospitals and the police. But Clarke raised a number of indirect taxes and scrapped a number of tax breaks, resulting in a relatively tight overall budget meant to head off a damaging rise in interest rates.

SUMMIT

(Continued from Page 1)

Regarding reports that Arafat was planning to initiate violence similar to what occurred in September, after the opening of the new exit to the West Wall Tunnel, Netanyahu said: "Arafat, or someone else in the Palestinian Authority, should think and weigh very well whether they want to go the way of peace, or return to the cycle of violence."

Netanyahu said the PA is mistaken if it believes the government will allow a "series of events like those that followed the opening of the tunnel exit, or will agree to engage in negotiations against the background of violence, or while under threat."

As to whether the government will build new settlements, Netanyahu said: "If and when I decide on building new settlements, I will bring the issue to the cabinet for debate and a decision." Netanyahu said that at this time, the government's policy is to allow building only in existing settlements.

While in Ariel, Netanyahu met with local councilors and visited the College of Judea and Samaria. Zahava Adar, the Ariel spokeswoman, said Netanyahu told the council that he intends to strengthen the settlement, which is today the second largest in the territories, with some 15,000 residents.

She said the prime minister will restore Ariel's preferential tax status, which it and most of the other settlements enjoyed before Labor came to power in 1992 and took this status away. She added that the government has approved plans to build 3,600 housing units in the settlement, 1,000 of which she said could be built "immediately."

Adar said that Netanyahu made it clear that under any final agreement with the Palestinians, Ariel

will remain a part of Israel, giving Ariel's leaders a feeling that the settlement's future is secure, for the first time in four years. "We will be here forever," Netanyahu said. Following his visit to Ariel, Netanyahu went to speak at the pre-military academy at Eil, where yeshiva high-school students study for a year before beginning their army duty. Netanyahu said that he will try to begin talks on the final agreement within the year, and also that more effort should be made to deepen the link between the people and the land.

In a related development, President Ezer Weizman met with leaders of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza yesterday and, according to the settlement leaders, asked them to start "thinking about and offering their opinion on how the final status map with the Palestinians should look." Yehiel Leiter, a spokesman for the council, said the very request was encouraging, because it shows that the idea of uprooting the settlements is increasingly being taken off the agenda.

Evelyn Gordon adds: MK Zvi Hendel (National Religious Party) asked Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon yesterday to prevent the Knesset Economic Affairs Committee from meeting with Arafat this Sunday. Hendel said it was inconceivable for an official Knesset delegation to meet with Arafat at a time when Arafat was organizing violence against Israelis - ranging from the three-day shooting war in late September to this week's one-day blockade of Netzarim, in Gaza, by the Palestinian Police.

Jon Immanuel contributed to this report.

tomorrow. This is a sensible budget for growing prosperity," he said. Clarke described the budget as "responsible," and said it would pave the way for the ruling Conservatives to come from behind in the opinion polls and win a fifth consecutive term in office at an election, due by May 22.

"I am a man of the world, I realize virtue doesn't always bring its own rewards. But this virtuous budget will bring rich rewards. The rewards of economic success to the hard working men and women of this country," he said. Clarke cut overall taxes by £2 billion (\$3.34 billion), but offset it by reducing public spending by the same amount.

"Consumer spending is strong and inflation remains in check. But a fiscal stimulus to the economy at this stage could be just as damaging as letting go of monetary policy. So, in setting my budget, I have struck a careful balance," he said.

The centerpiece of the budget, which was overshadowed by an unprecedented leak of the budget to the *Daily Mirror* on Monday night, was a widely trailed cut in the basic rate of income tax from 24 percent to 23 percent - a 60-year low. In a naked pitch to the voters, Clarke said his tax plans - which included increases in tax thresholds - would make the average family £370 better off next year, after inflation.

As Clarke spoke, a high-level investigation was under way into the leak of a sheaf of documents to the *Daily Mirror* with details of key parts of the budget.

The leak, the worst in half a century, acutely embarrassed Prime Minister John Major's government, which is struggling to shake off the perception that it is losing its once-sure touch after 17-1/2 years in power.

OSLO (Reuters) - The World Jewish Congress said yesterday it would take its search for the unclaimed wealth of Holocaust victims to Sweden, which it said bought gold from Nazi Germany during World War II.

WJC Secretary-General Israel Singer said he would travel to Stockholm today for "an opening discussion" with Swedish government officials on questions of restitution of Jewish property.

He was speaking to reporters on the final day of a two-day WJC meeting in Oslo at which plans were made to penetrate Swiss bank secrecy and find out what happened to the wealth of Jewish victims of Nazi terror in other European countries, including neutral Sweden.

In Stockholm, a Foreign Ministry official said Singer would meet briefly with Foreign Minister Lena Hjelm-Wallen today.

PEOPLE

come in different shapes and sizes

...the long and the short and the tall and they come with different talents and ambitions, and they come rich and poor and mostly in between. And some come, usually through, no fault of their own, disadvantaged.

That's where we come in.

For nearly fifty years, readers of The Jerusalem Post, both in Israel and in some 100 countries around the world have been sending money to help those less fortunate. The Forsake-Me-Not fund, together with social workers and volunteers in the field, use your donations to help old folks living in distressed circumstances.

With your help we've been able to alleviate suffering and provide a little hope. Help us to help people by sending a contribution today to:

"FORSAKE ME NOT" The Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000, Israel
Friends of The Jerusalem Post Funds, 20 East 56th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022, U.S.A.

Together, we shall overcome.

Palestinian refugee issue set to resurface

OUT of the limelight of the dispute on the Hebron redeployment, a high-ranking Palestinian delegation led by Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the foreign affairs department of the PLO, visited Damascus and Beirut to have meetings with Rejection Front leaders, in a declared attempt to reunite the PLO after a split caused by the Oslo agreements. Besides Kaddoumi, the delegation consisted of Faisal Hussein, his younger brother Ghazi Hussein, Mohammed Jihad, and Hani al-Hasan of the Fatah movement.

They met, among other key figures in the Palestinian opposition to Palestinian Authority head Yasser Arafat, Ahmad Jibril, George Habash, and Nayer Hawarna.

What caused Arafat to send a delegation to hold such meetings? Perhaps it is

connected to a report that informed them of a decision made recently, by Arafat, to revive the PLO infrastructure outside "Palestine."

Is Arafat paving the way to restore the weight of the Palestinian political system from the "inside" back to the "outside?"

If this is the case, Arafat will not necessarily move the PLO headquarters back to the Arab world, however the center of its activity will return to outside the Palestinian Authority areas.

At first glance, this possibility makes no sense. How can the PLO abandon "Palestine" after accomplishing the historical achievement of returning from the diaspora? This is a real question, one that leads to a confirmation that the PLO is here to stay, whatever happens. Yet the process of shifting the center

ANALYSIS PINHAS INBARI

of gravity of Palestinian political activity to the "outside" is now taking on new dimensions due to the positions it adheres to regarding the refugee problem. And the current PLO position is that the only solution is fulfillment of the "right of return" — despite the fact that Abu Mazen and Yossi Beilin agreed on a different formula which they refuse to elaborate.

Although we do not know the precise Abu Mazen-Beilin formula, we can assume that it differs from the PLO's formal position in the sense that the PLO's formula better represents the interests of the Palestinians abroad,

while Abu Mazen-Beilin's better represents the interests of Palestinians in the territories, who are not interested in flooding the territories with returning refugees. Those Palestinians, like Hanan Ashrawi, are speaking of a controlled return of refugees, according to the Palestinian absorption capabilities.

The delegation to Damascus and Beirut reflects this imbalance of interests (only Faisal Hussein represented the "inside").

The combination of meetings with opposition leaders in Damascus, and probable meetings with refugee activists in Beirut, reflect the linkage

between shifting the weight of Palestinian activity to the "outside," and the refugee problem.

The fact that Kaddoumi led the delegation shed more light on the process that is now taking place, and it may clarify some of the ambiguity connected to Arafat's inclination to declare a Palestinian state.

Kaddoumi is famous for his refusal to join the PLO in the territories, and he has gained additional prestige since the Likud's success in the elections. Upon his insistence, Fatah's Central Committee's last meeting, three months ago, convened in Cairo, not in Gaza, and Kaddoumi appeared as the most conspicuous figure. "I told you not to accept the Oslo agreements," Kaddoumi told his depressed colleagues.

Nobody even tried to argue with him. If Kaddoumi's line is going to develop, his foreign-affairs department will regain importance lost after many years of being pushed aside in favor of the Palestinian delegation in Madrid, Washington, and then to the Oslo team led by Abu Mazen and Abu Ala.

In many senses, Kaddoumi's foreign affairs department is recognized by many countries as the Foreign Ministry of the Palestinian State — already declared in Algeria.

What we may soon witness is a dual system: a Palestinian state operating from the diaspora, and a Palestinian Authority operating from "Palestine." Arafat will be the *rais* in the form of president while going abroad, and he will be *rais* with the meaning of chairman on his return to Gaza.

Jordan urges UN to reconsider Libya sanctions

MARJORIE OLSTER

JORDAN urged a reconsideration in Madrid on Monday of international sanctions imposed on Libya in connection with airliner bombings, saying such measures hurt ordinary people instead of their leaders.

Jordanian Prime Minister Abdul-Karim al-Kabarti, on a visit to Spain, said the sanctions imposed by the United Nations in 1992 in connection with the 1988 airliner bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, have not solved anything.

Libya was targeted for its refusal to extradite two men accused of planting a bomb aboard Pan Am Flight 103 which exploded over Lockerbie and killed 270 people.

"Libya is now under some sort of a sanction... We would like very much to [re]visit this idea of sanctions," Kabarti said at a joint news conference with Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar in Madrid. "It is very much now needed for the international community to revise and consider the idea of sanctions, and see whether they really change the situation in the way that [they are] intended," he added.

The punitive measures against Libya include an air embargo, a ban on arms sales, and the downgrading of diplomatic relations. They are reviewed by the UN Security Council every 120 days.

They also penalize Libya for not cooperating in an investigation into the 1989 bombing of France's UTA Flight 772 over Niger which killed all 171 aboard.

Because of Tripoli's continued noncompliance, the UN Security Council imposed additional sanctions in 1993, including a freeze on some of Libya's assets abroad, and a ban on its import of certain types of equipment used in oil transport terminals and refineries.

"I believe that sanctions don't affect dictators and don't affect the regimes," said Kabarti. "In fact what they do is just add to the misery of the people and they don't solve any problems."

The Arab League, of which Jordan is a member, supports Libya in its offer for the two Lockerbie suspects to be tried by a Scottish judge under Scottish law at the World Court at The Hague. The US and Britain, which have indicted the two men, insist they stand trial in a Scottish or US court.

El Mundo quoted the secret NATO report on Monday which singles out Russia, Libya, Syria, Iran and Iraq as potential foes of the US-led NATO alliance, but sees North Africa as the top source of threats to its territory. It said Libya could pose a significant threat in 10 years' time if Tripoli successfully develops long-range missiles and warheads which could put Spain within its range.

Kabarti said he does not think Libya has nuclear weapons. "I doubt very much that Libya really had the time to develop such capabilities," he said.



Iraqi men have a communal newspaper-reading session on a street in Baghdad, catching updates on the UN-monitored oil-for-food deal that would permit Baghdad to sell oil on international markets for the first time in six years. (Reuters)

Iraqis dance in streets, dinar strengthens on oil-for-food news

IRAQIS cheered and danced in the alleyways of Baghdad's poor neighborhoods as word spread that the government had agreed to go ahead with the UN-monitored oil-for-food deal.

The Iraqi dinar strengthened against the dollar, and money changers disappeared from the market yesterday, to wait and see where the exchange rate would settle.

"I do not believe it!" said Samir Mohammed Shaker, 44, a former government worker. "This is the happiest day of my life."

Iraq on Monday accepted the remaining UN conditions blocking implementation of the deal, and US Ambassador Madeleine Albright said she expected the oil sale to go forward.

Iraq had given its approval last May to the UN deal, which will allow Baghdad to sell \$2 billion worth of oil over six months to buy much-needed food and medicine for its 18 million people. But implementation had been

blocked because Iraq insisted on restricting the number of observers to monitor the program.

And the US announced in September that the plan was on hold because of an Iraqi military incursion into protected Kurdish areas in the north.

Iraq's economy has been deteriorating since the UN imposed sanctions after Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein invaded neighboring Kuwait in August 1990.

The UN ban on oil sales — Iraq's main commodity — deprived the economy of more than \$20 billion a year in revenue.

Depreciation of the dinar and rising prices have put even necessities out of reach for poor Iraqis. UNICEF estimated in October that as many as 4,500 children under five were dying each month from hunger and disease.

The Iraqi government has not shied from highlighting the hardship the sanctions, aimed at dislodging the leadership, have

caused ordinary people, while telling them their suffering is patriotic.

"The flow of oil means the flow of life back to Iraq," the government's *Al-Jumhuriya* newspaper said in an editorial yesterday.

The newspaper cast the Iraqi decision to drop objections to the deal as a timely move to stop "the malicious plots against Iraqis to keep them from food" and to end "the series of excuses used by the United States to block any deal."

As word of the deal circulated Monday night, people celebrated in the densely populated working-class districts of Al-Rahmaniya and Al-Thawra.

Yesterday morning, money changers on downtown Kifah Street were refusing to sell dollars until the exchange rate settled.

The dinar had slipped to a record low of 3,000 to the dollar in December and January. Before Monday's announcement, it was trading at about 1,400 to the dollar. Yesterday's opening rate was 1,100, but no

one on Kifah Street was willing to sell.

Retail prices were expected to fall, but some skeptical shopkeepers kept to their old prices. "I do not think that America will let the oil flow," said Ahmed Nouri Mahmoud, a 52-year-old store owner. "History tells us that they never let good things happen to President Saddam, so I expect them to bring something up to stop the deal."

Iraqi newspapers spread the news in banner headlines. The daily *Babil*, which is owned by Saddam's son Qadafi and has been one of Iraq's harshest critics of Albright, published her statement at the United Nations in full on page 2.

One government worker, Mohammed Fatnan, an employee at the Ministry of Information and Culture, termed the deal a victory for Iraq over the US. "President Saddam pulled the carpet from under Albright's feet," he said. "We always knew that President Saddam is the only one who cares for Iraqis while the rest only talk." (AP)

Saudi Arabia beheads 5 for drug smuggling

SAUDI Arabia yesterday beheaded five foreigners — two women and three men — for drug smuggling, Saudi state television reported.

An Interior Ministry statement carried by the television said four Pakistanis — two women and two men — and a Nigerian man were executed.

The beheadings raised to 58 the number of people executed in the conservative Moslem kingdom so far this year.

Saudi Arabia strictly enforces Islamic sharia law by publicly beheading by the sword convicted murderers, drug smugglers, rapists and other criminals. (Reuters)

Pressure on Syria to expand its economy

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

SAEED Nahas, a Syrian tycoon, has spent years trying in vain to arrange financing for a \$90 million tourism project on the Mediterranean coast. Camille Azzouz of Aleppo gave up a huge order from South America for his laminated-paneling factory because foreign banks are not allowed to supply letters of credit in Syria, and it would have taken too long to complete the deal in cash.

These and other tales from the *shuk* and the street, suggest that pressure is mounting on Syria to expand its economy, particularly its nearly nonexistent private banking system. *The Wall Street Journal* reported last week.

Damascus is moving very cautiously in its economic reforms for fear of unleashing crime and political unrest if it moves too quickly.

That means, for example, that businesses have been waiting two years for a stock-market law, while the government waits for shareholder-owned companies to emerge first.

"It's like the chicken and the egg," Nahas said.

The government's fears about private banking also stem, in part, from a scandal in Aleppo, two years ago, when an illicit "money collector" took off with millions of dollars after promising investors high returns for cash deposits.

"We're worried about having those people come and ask for licenses to open private banks," Mohammed Al Imadi, minister of

economy and foreign trade, told the newspaper. "We want to keep banks in the hands of the government."

Private enterprise is also stymied by an intricate system of currency controls, some of which are contradictory. Citizens can maintain interest-bearing dollar accounts in Syrian banks, but a decade-old law makes it illegal for Syrians to handle foreign exchange, the *Journal* reported.

Syrian businesses can't get financing for projects of \$30 million or more. For smaller deals, funds are available, but they cost dearly, Hashem Akkad, a Damascus trader, industrialist and member of Parliament, told the *Journal*.

A loan document from Industrial Bank, for example, lists a standard borrowing rate of 10% that rises to 18.5%, including an "engagement commission," "execution fee" and three other charges, the newspaper reported.

There are signs that Syria is moving forward, however slowly. It has an agreement with France to restructure more than \$300 million of debt, which could attract European capital. And the European Union has started a \$6 million project to provide computer hardware to Syria's banks, which could possibly prepare them for competition with private banks.

In the meantime though, Syrian businesses can deal with Lebanese banks or the black-market exchanges at border crossings and in the *shuk*.

Bonn asks Beirut to extradite smuggler

GERMANY formally asked Beirut on Monday to extradite a Lebanese-born businessman wanted for smuggling chemical weapons-making equipment from Germany to Libya, judicial sources said.

They said the Germans asked Lebanon to hand over Berge Balanian, who is wanted on an international arrest warrant. He was arrested at a Beirut airport cafe last month by German and Lebanese police.

Lebanon's prosecutor-general Adnan Adoum, who received the German request, said he would decide on it within 48 hours, but that any extradition decision would also need the approval of the cabinet.

The German federal crime office in Wiesbaden has said Balanian was wanted for exporting state-of-the-art equipment to Libya for mixing poison gases. German police say equipment to mix poison gases worth some DM 3.2 million (\$2.15 million) was illegally sent to Libya from Germany in 1990-93, contrary to German arms-control laws.

Prosecutors believe the equipment was bought by the businessman's firms then sent to the Libyan port of Tripoli, via Belgian companies that Balanian owns.

US officials accused Libya earlier this year of trying to build an underground chemical-weapons plant. (Reuters)

THE JEWISH FESTIVALS AND HOLY DAYS



Contains reproductions of original watercolors, depicting twelve of the most important days in the Jewish calendar. The naive style paintings by the well known Israeli artist Michael Meron capture the essence of these important days, from austere Yom Kippur to the ebullience of Independence Day. Michael Meron's eye for color and intricate detail combines with an inspirational approach to this unique spiritual heritage. Published by The Studio in Old Jaffa, full color, 32 pp.

JP Price: NIS 49.00, incl. VAT, p & p in Israel. Overseas airmail, please add NIS 15.00. (Allow 3-4 weeks delivery.)

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. Please send me _____ copies of The Jewish Festivals by Michael Meron, at NIS 49.00 per copy. Enclosed, please find my check, payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details.

VISA ISRACARD DINERS

CC. No. _____ Exp. _____ City _____ Code _____ ID No. _____

Name _____ Tel. (day) _____ Signature _____

Please list gift recipients' names and addresses separately.

ESSENTIAL PAPERS ON ZIONISM

Edited by Jehuda Reinharz and Anita Shapira

Landmark essays on the history of Zionism — many appearing in English for the first time — edited by the President of Brandeis University and the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities of Tel Aviv University.

Zionism — one of the most important political movements of modern times — is discussed in scholarly papers by leading researchers: from its forerunners, to Zionism and the Diaspora and Eretz Israel; through the Mandate period, and including discussions of the national idea and its implications.

Among the contributors: Jacob Katz, Shlomo Ettinger, Yaakov Shavit, Gershon Shaked. Published by Cassell; softcover, 860pp.

JP Price: NIS 129 plus NIS 9 for packing and postage

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

Please send me ESSENTIAL PAPERS ON ZIONISM. Enclosed is my check, payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:

Visa Isc/MCD Diners AmEx

CC No. _____ Exp. _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Code _____ ID No. _____

Tel./Fax (day) _____ Signature _____

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!
If you don't have e-mail or even a computer you can still advertise!

INTERNET POST CLASSIFIEDS
Reach all of Israel and the world for just NIS 39

Special Offer! * Up to 30 words
* 24 hours a day * 2 full weeks

Dwellings Employment Personals
 Business and Services Miscellaneous

Message: _____

Don't forget your contact address /phone /fax /e-mail in your message.

Fax this form to 02-531-5622 or place your ad directly on our web site at <http://www.jpост.co.il>

Name _____
Address _____
Credit Card No. _____
Exp. date _____ Card type _____
Tel No. _____ Fax No. _____
e-mail address _____

NO TELEPHONE SUBMISSIONS

THE JERUSALEM POST

F. DAVID RADLER Chairman, Board of Directors
YEHUDA LEVY, President & Publisher

Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON

EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem 91000
Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9527. CIRCULATION— 02-531-5610, Fax 02-538-9017, ADVERTISING— 02-531-5608,
02-531-5637-40 Fax 02-538-8408, TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasger, POB 28398 1612831 Telephone 03-6390333, Fax 6390277,
HAIFA 20 Nordau, Hader Hacarmel, Telephone 04-8623166. Published daily except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine
Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1996. Reproduction or
storage in a retrieval system, or in any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-
1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN-DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS,
1992-1996 DAVID BAR-ILLAN
INTERNET EDITION: http://www.jpost.co.il General E-mail: jpost@jpost.co.il Editorial E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il
Subscriptions E-mail: subs@jpost.co.il

JEFF BARAK, Editor
CARL SCHRAG, Managing Editor
DAN IZENBERG, News Editor
DAVID BRINN, Night Editor
SAM ORBAUM, Features Editor
THOMAS O'DWYER, Foreign Editor
JUDY MONTAGU, Op-Ed Editor
AMOTZ ASA-EL, Business Editor

AVI GOLAN, Executive Vice President, Marketing & Advertising
PAUL STASZEWSKI, CPA, Vice President, Finance
YOSSI HORN, Vice President, Production
STANLEY SCHRUEGER, Circulation Manager
BENZION MILLER, Tel Aviv Office Manager

A generational challenge

A good number of Israeli youths, according to a 1994 survey of Israeli youth sponsored by the Education Ministry, hate Arabs but do not want to fight them. The survey, conducted by the Carmel Institute for Social Research and enjoying renewed attention following an article analyzing its findings in the journal *Meimad*, revealed a number of trends that deserve the attention of policy makers.

The survey results contradict the caricature of Israeli youth as a "Ramat Aviv Gimel Generation" obsessed with aping their American and European counterparts. Despite the relentless berating of reduced motivation to serve in the military, a full 86% of the Jewish students said they "want" or "want very much" to join the IDF - virtually the same proportion as six years before.

The high-school students surveyed placed their highest values on traditional concerns such as professional satisfaction, raising a family, and academic success rather than other goals, such as "enjoying life," traveling abroad, or success in the military. Far from the nihilistic "Me Generation" often depicted, this snapshot of Israeli youth revealed a generation directed toward building their lives for the long term, without shirking their responsibility to serve their country along the way.

The survey found that Jewish Israeli youth were not sharply divided along urban or kibbutz lines, or between Ashkenazi and Sephardi ethnic backgrounds. One fault line, however, was clear: between secular and religious youth.

On the question of readiness to serve in combat units, the differences were marked and growing. Since a similar survey in 1988, students in national religious schools slightly increased their desire to serve in combat units, while the same desire dropped significantly in secular schools.

In particular, in non-technical secular schools, those inclined toward combat units plummeted from 72 percent in 1988 to 48 percent in 1994, and in secular kibbutz schools from 73 percent to 59 percent. At the same time, students in religious kibbutz schools now take the cake in terms of military motivation: 89 percent want to serve in combat units.

The religious schools should not, however, leap to pat themselves on the back. The survey also found that on average over one-third of Jewish Israeli youth hated Arabs and two-thirds were against giving Israeli Arabs full and equal rights. The survey showed that these anti-Arab attitudes were strongest among the students in religious schools, though hatred of Arabs in those schools has dropped somewhat since 1988.

So what do we know about a generation of youth whose experience with the Arab-Israeli conflict consists of the intifada, the Gulf War and the handshake on the White House lawn? Today's youth has grown up with a much more complicated conflict than their parents knew when Israel defended her existence against the armies of the Arab world. Today even the dividing lines between war and peace, enemy and friend have become blurred.

It is perhaps inevitable that youth in these times turn more towards building a family than toward defending a bunker, a settlement, or a border. Still, at the current delicate juncture between a cold war and a hoped-for warm peace, Israel cannot afford to let disturbing trends go unaddressed.

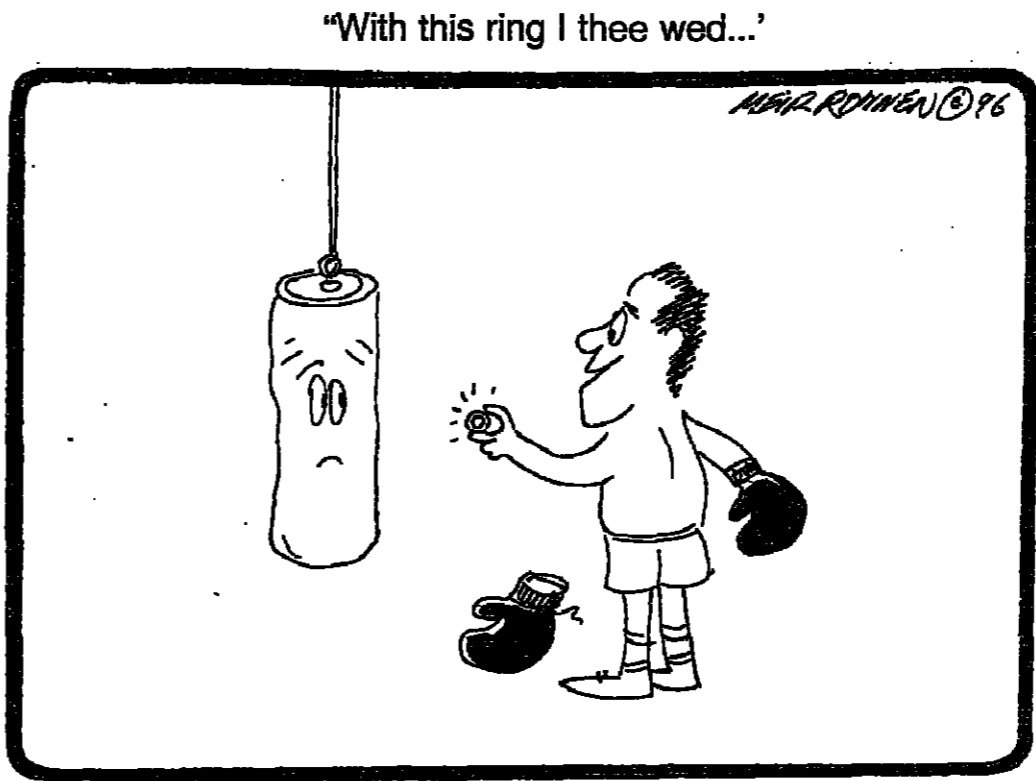
Whatever happens in the peace process, Israel will have to combine a vigilant eye with an open hand. The trends highlighted by the survey indicate that the seeds of both vigilance and openness demand proper tending. The key to the future may lie in building upon the best attributes of secular and religious youth: the openness of the former, and the national motivation, even at a personal price, of the latter.

Another pointer toward the way ahead can be gleaned from the responses of Arab youth in the same survey. A full three-quarters of Israeli Arab youth were in favor of some form of voluntary national service, and a solid majority indicated that they would participate. At the same time, Arab and Jewish youth both supported peace, while doubting each other's commitment to this ideal.

Familiarity might breed contempt, but the lack of personal contact between Arab and Israeli youth certainly has not brought friendship. For Jewish youth, military service generally goes far in breaking down barriers between religious and secular, and sewing up other cultural divides. National service for Arab youth could help play a similar role, even if it is concentrated mostly in Arab communities.

It is hard to see what would be the possible downside of creating a national service program for Israeli Arabs, given the support for such a program before it has even been designed or promoted. Such a program would strengthen the connection of Israeli Arabs to Israel, improve conditions in Arab villages, and help break down animosity between Arabs and Jews.

The writing on the wall from the surveys is clear. Both religious and secular school students need to learn more about democracy, Jewish values, Jewish history, and the Arab neighbors with whom we live. It is a tall order to build toughness, patriotism and openness to former enemies all at the same time, but that is the challenge facing Israeli educators.



Peace works

RICHARD Z. CHESNOFF

SHIMON Peres was in New York last week to talk about peace.

The former Israeli prime minister - still smarting from his bitter electoral defeat by Benjamin Netanyahu last May - seemed unusually subdued. But Peres's personal plea for Arab-Jewish peace and coexistence was as heartfelt and impassioned as ever.

The 73-year-old Nobel laureate chose his audience well: a gathering of supporters of the Abraham Fund, a New York-based intercommunal group that promotes Jewish-Arab coexistence in Israel, funds projects for both communities and already has proud echoes of its lofty work in Gaza and the West Bank.

Not surprisingly Peres was named first recipient of the organization's Pioneer of Coexistence Award.

Alan Slička, the New York investment banker who cofounded the Abraham Fund seven years ago, set the tone.

"Arab-Jewish coexistence," Slička told the gathering at the New York Athletic Club, "was a moral imperative."

But it was Peres who underscored why. The alternative to coexistence, according to Peres: "More war, more bloodshed, more disaster."

That message has special urgency now. Agreement on security pending an Israeli withdrawal from Hebron is still not final; extremists on both sides are threatening violence, and more and more Israelis and Palestinians seem fearful that peace is fading like some desert mirage.

Of course opponents of Mideast peace consider the very idea of Arab-Israeli coexistence anathema. To cynics talk of it remains Pollyannaish at best. "It will never happen," they say.

Yet it's undeniable: Jews and Arabs have side-by-side shares in the Mideast's destiny.

Hands off our courts

MOSHE ZAK

LAST Thursday, the day after Britain's foreign minister met with our defense minister, Michael Beynon, diplomatic correspondent of the *London Times*, reported: "Mr. Rifkind criticized the Israeli court which this week imposed only a fine of less than a penny on four soldiers found guilty of fatally shooting a Palestinian at a road block. He said this gave an impression that Israel put little value on Palestinian life."

That same day Malcolm Rifkind's secretary called the Israeli ambassador in London expressing Rifkind's reservations over the *Times* report. But the minister stopped short at demanding that the paper print a correction of the harsh statement attributed to him, that Israel "put little value on Palestinian life."

Whether or not Rifkind used such forceful language is immaterial, although the same British Foreign Office official who briefed the *Times* correspondent had apparently also compiled the minister's dossier for his meeting with his Israeli guest.

And that dossier included no detailed analysis of the trial and what led up to it, only a superficial impression gleaned from newspaper headlines (notably the leading story in the *Paris Herald Tribune*) to the effect that four Israeli soldiers had been fined one agora for killing a young Palestinian.

The truth is that the four, from a special unit, were not on trial for killing a Palestinian youth. They were being tried by a military court for disciplinary offenses, and the legal battle continues, with the prosecution appealing the soldiers' light sentence in relation to those offenses.

Foreign interference in the midst of a legal process clearly goes against the principle of sub judice Israel inherited from the British Mandate in this country. Such interference, with the attendant publicity, could well influence the judges in the prosecution's forthcoming appeal.

ISRAEL has every right to be proud of its legal system, civil and military, and of the unsullied nature of its decisions.

There cannot be many other countries fighting a war against terrorism that try soldiers and policemen accused of infringing norms of conduct.

Thus, in a related issue, no foreign government official, diplomat or journalist has the right to criticize the Supreme Court's recent decision to grant a one-time restricted permit allowing physical pressure to be used against detainees suspected of having vital information that could prevent mass slaughter.

Those who would take issue with the court's verdict against the four soldiers should go back to November 13, 1993 and examine the overall background of the regrettable incident - which occurred some months after the declaration of principles with the PLO was signed. Yitzhak Rabin was premier and defense minister.

When hopes of calm following the agreement were dashed, Rabin gave the public and the army his assessment that Palestinian opponents of the agreement were trying to derail it via terrorism; so, for the sake of peace, it was necessary to go all out against Palestinian terrorists.

Four days prior to the incident terrorists had hijacked a car and used it deliberately to run down

an Israeli Arab driving a car with Israeli number plates in the Gaza Strip.

In the face of additional attempted terror strikes the IDF set up roadblocks to deter such activity. And these roadblocks enabled the capture of four terrorists who had savagely murdered Haim Mizrahi of Beit El only 10 days earlier.

The four soldiers were obeying orders, namely, doing everything they could to catch terrorists trying to derail Oslo amid great efforts by their unit to frustrate terror attacks.

On Saturday November 13 a car with four Palestinian youths in it sped toward a roadblock. When the youths saw the roadblock and the soldiers they tried to escape. The soldiers opened fire; one of the fleeing youths was killed.

"At that time and in that place," said the court's verdict, "these soldiers could not have acted other than they did."

The death of 18-year-old Iyad Amal Badran, killed by fire from soldiers manning an Israeli roadblock, is to be regretted.

But there should be no less regret over the death in the same week of Suleiman Abuashla, an Israeli citizen driving a car with Israeli license plates in the Gaza Strip, who was killed by Palestinian terrorists and left eight children orphaned.

Both were needless victims of the "armed struggle," a struggle which could have ended long ago but for clumsy outside interference.

Public criticism of Israel coming this week - of all weeks - amid reports of Palestinian preparations for violence in the runup to November 29 ("Palestine Day") can only create the impression that Israel's hands are tied, thus encouraging Palestinian provocation.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

Foreign judgment of the Israeli legal system isn't worth an agora

Economic growth is no cure-all. But it is a remedy for major chunks of Mideast suffering

I CAN'T argue with those who question the Oslo accords. It's less than a perfect deal for either side, and especially full of security holes for Israel. But as Peres put it, while "Yasser Arafat didn't become a Zionist he did agree to negotiate our differences."

Besides, even the Likud understands they're now an international reality and the only game in town.

Elihu Ben Elissar, Israel's new ambassador to Washington, told a recent New York meeting of the Anti-Defamation League's National Commission that peace is imperative and Israel must work within the Oslo framework, albeit much more slowly and skeptically than Peres and the Labor Party.

Fact is that for all the failures and backsliding we've seen recently there are successes. Some are small, but within the context of a bitter, century-old battle they're all large.

Israelis and Palestinians are still talking, still negotiating. Daily life in the West Bank has increasingly come under the autonomous control of the Palestinians who live there.

And just recently Israeli businessmen who would have been shunned if not attacked 10 years ago participated with Arab counterparts from all over the Middle East in a Cairo economic conference.

Economic growth is no cure-all. But it is a remedy for major chunks of Mideast suffering.

"Peace," says Peres "is a people-to-people enterprise... you have to privatize it, make it the business of all people, not just of governments."

One of those listening at last week's Abraham Fund dinner was Daniel Lubetzky. He's the young New York lawyer who, in the wake of the Arab-Israeli accords, founded a small import company called Peace Works.

The idea: to market new lines of Mideast food products grown and produced in Israel, Gaza, the West Bank and Egypt by Arabs and Jews working together.

When first reported two years ago, Peace Works had a handful of clients. Now, beams the Mexican-born Lubetzky, it boasts more than 2,600 accounts in 10 countries buying and selling everything from sundried tomatoes to flavored olive oils.

Maybe next year they can add milk and honey to their line. What better business for the Children of Abraham?

(Reprinted by special permission of the New York Daily News)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AMERICAN FORBEARANCE
Sir, - If Americans thought like Israeli politicians and journalistic pundits, the entire Republican Party and all American conservative Christians would be blamed for the extreme right-wing terrorism that has plagued the US in the 1990s.

After all, the Republican Party has campaigned against "big government" for decades; the terrorists who bombed a government building in Oklahoma City in 1994, massacring 169 people in the process, also profess to be opponents of "big government." Republican leaders have attacked President Clinton's "character" repeatedly over the past four years; during this time, there have been at least two assassination attempts against the president. The leaders of the Roman Catholic Church and the conservative Protestant churches in the US, along with many Republican leaders, have denounced legalized abortion; other abortion opponents have bombed medical clinics and assassinated doctors.

If Americans accepted the collective guilt and guilt-by-association theories put forward by Israeli politicians and pundits, they would claim that everyone who opposes "big government," abortions and Bill Clinton is implicated in these crimes - or at any rate, is obliged to do some "soul-searching."

In reality, of course, no one of any consequence in the US has suggested that legitimate political or religious conservatives are responsible for the crimes of a small extreme-right fringe. As a result, Americans are still able to hold rational political discussions with neighbors and fellow-citizens who disagree with them - instead of denouncing these neighbors and fellow-citizens as murderers, Israeli fashion.

Israelis would be wise to follow the American precedent of exercising at least some degree of forbearance in political discourse. To equate honest political dissent with terrorism is to hand the terrorists their greatest victory.

JOHN C. LANDAU
New Palz, N.Y.

THE PUBLIC'S TASTE
Sir, - The funniest thing about your editorial "Unfunny coercion" (November 7) is the assertions it contains.

"Satire..." you declare, "if it becomes simply malicious, vulgar or shocking, will fail on its own terms and is unlikely to survive for long." And you conclude: "MK Benizri would do well to rely on the public's good sense, good taste and their ability to vote with their remote control."

After nearly 25 years of voluntary work among youth and their families all over the country, I am wondering if the entire editorial was intended to be satire. After years of participating in their entertainment, listening to their music, and watching television and films with them, I find that anything that is "malicious, vulgar or shocking" is a sure recipe for popularity and success.

Blather about the public's "good sense and good taste" is far funnier than anything which appears on TV. The truth is that the public is in general responsible to everything that is degenerate in what passes for culture in the US and the West.

MEIR ABELSON
Jerusalem.

ORTHODOXY
Sir, - Experience has shown that "non-Orthodox Judaism" is not a "stepping stone to greater observance," as your editorial of November 19 argues, but to assimilation.

The recognition given to conversions performed abroad by the Reform and Conservative movements is limited. In regard to marriage, these conversions, according to the status quo, are not recognized, and rightly so, if the intent is to continue a line and not to swell the ranks.

L. BEAME
Jerusalem.

UNPLEASANT REALITY
Sir, - I refer to Philip Warburg's op-ed article of November 10, "Kept back." It seems that he is unaware of the experiences we have had with official Palestinian organizations. The suspicions of our security authorities concerning Palestinian office-holders are unfortunately well founded. A number of PA elected representatives exploited their diplomatic status to smuggle through people or materials meant to harm Israel's security. Cynical use was also made of wailing ambulances for the same purpose.

Relationships of trust and respect have to be based on the spirit of reciprocity. There have been proven cases in which PA officials misused their diplomatic immunity. This obliges our security forces to deny free movement to those who are potentially high security risks. The entire Israeli population endured a lot of inconvenience recently because of the fear of terror attacks, which was the reason for the closure and the fact that Mr. Warburg's colleague was denied free transit. This is an unpleasant reality which we must accept until real peace prevails in the region.

B. DAVID
Jerusalem.

WRONG ACCUSATION
Sir, - The accusation you published against Agence France-Presse in *The Jerusalem Post* op-ed piece on November 14 is not only totally wrong, but also grotesque.

In reporting that Egyptian authorities accused an Israeli citizen of being a spy, AFP is only doing its job, as did all other news wires and media, including Israeli ones (and your own daily newspaper).

If you want to ridicule your newspaper, it's your problem, but I would like you to avoid mixing AFP in this enterprise.

LUC DE BARCHEOEZ
Bureau Chief,
Agence France Presse
Jerusalem.

Tip of a huge iceberg

WE can congratulate ourselves. Palestinian society has come of age.

We not only have corruption, we have taken another step toward the developed countries.

This week the Arab media carried news of the first ever Western-style Palestinian kidnapping, complete with all the usual techniques used in this kind of crime, down to the call to the victim's parents (wealthy restaurant owners) and instructions on where the ransom money (NIS 350,000) should be delivered.

On Sunday nine-year-old Osama Paulos was kidnapped on his way to school in Ramallah by two men in a car. His ordeal did not last long. On Monday he was located by Palestinian police and returned to his family.

The kidnapping shook Palestinian society violently.

There should be no sympathy shown to those who perpetrate such a crime. Every effort must be made to prevent it becoming a precedent, something that would surely shatter our social stability.

Whatever deterrents are deemed necessary should be enforced - even to the extent of capital punishment.

But the circumstances in our homeland are part of the picture.

Without any deliberate intention of playing down the severity of this week's kidnapping, one must look at the devastating economic situation in the Palestinian areas, where unemployment is rampant.

An orthopedic surgeon was given permission to keep the foot, which was amputated three years ago, for research and educational purposes. He stored the foot in his freezer at home, but the freezer recently broke down and the contents spoiled.

The surgeon said he decided to put the foot in a crab trap to remove the flesh. The foot later washed up on the beach.

MOHAMMED SHAKER AHMED

employment has soared to unthinkable heights, reaching around 45 percent in the West Bank and 60 percent in the Gaza Strip.

The ease with which Osama was found indicates that the kidnapers were not professionals. The kidnapping was an amateurish business, a desperate act by desperate people.

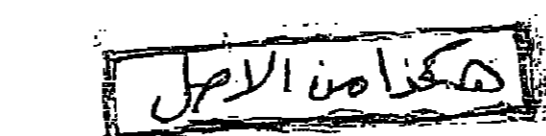
With our economy unwillingly tied to Israel, our crippled industries and agriculture could provide only minimal job opportunities for our workers.

The question that floats to the surface is: How can the vast majority of Palestinian families, now suffering from unemployment, earn their living when our dependence on Israel is exploited to serve Israel's own interests?

Closing off the Palestinian territories was the last straw.

While Israel and the donor states have been persistent in their demands for security they have ignored the other side: the

This week's kidnapping of a Palestinian boy was more than a chilling crime



Confronting dreams

PARENTING
RUTH MASON

OCCASIONALLY, my six-year-old wakes up crying from a nightmare. She'll often be sitting up in bed, but seem only half awake. I'm usually able to soothe and calm her within a few minutes by just talking to her and telling her I'm there, and everything is all right. But, I'm wondering if there is a more creative way to handle nightmares in young children and to possibly stop them.

Tripp Moss, M.A. in psychology, dream-workshop leader and teacher of dream work at Ofek, the Jerusalem program for gifted children, replies:

First we must distinguish between nightmares and night terrors. A child who wakes up from a night terror usually does so within the first two hours of sleep, when they're in their deepest level of sleep (not in REM sleep), and the child has little or no recall of the dream. If they do remember something, it's usually a general image like: "I was choking" or "something was after me."

Often the child will scream when it first wakes up, and might be disoriented for 10 to 20 minutes. The best thing here, is to do what you do - to be with the child, calm her and be confident that it will pass.

Chances are the child won't remember anything in the morning. Nightmares come during the regular dreaming phase of sleep - REM (rapid eye movement) sleep, and are usually vivid and detailed.

Here we can get into specific strategies. What's most important is for the parent to listen and reflect back the child's feelings. The child says: "I was really, really scared," and you say something like, "Yeah, I bet that was really frightening for you." You can ask: "What was the scariest part of the dream for you?"

Reassure them that this is their dream and they can change it. Ask: "How would you like to change the dream?" In other words, have them continue the dream-story while they are awake. Now they have the ability to

change it to their liking.

Children are much more flexible than most adults are in terms of what they can and can't do within a dream. So, you also can encourage them to go back and dream the dream again and actually change it. An example: When my daughter was five, she woke up crying and very frightened from a nightmare in which a dragon was chasing a unicorn. I said to her, "That's a powerful dream. You can go back to sleep and dream the dream and ask the dragon why it's chasing the unicorn, and then because of your bravery in confronting the dragon, you can ask for a gift."

The next morning she woke up and I asked her if she had been able to get back into the dream. She told me, with a big smile, that she had been able to, and that when she asked the dragon why it was chasing the unicorn, the dragon said it was because it loved the unicorn and wanted to live with it. When I asked if she received a gift, she said: "Yeah, 1,001 music boxes!"

You can teach your child to confront and conquer whatever is frightening within the dream. You can encourage the child to make friends with what is scaring him or her.

Or, if that seems too difficult, encourage the child to bring a powerful dream friend (e.g. Sopperman or a favorite animal) in to help - the child can do this either within the dream, or just by talking it through with you. The idea here is to show your child that she has the power within to conquer fears.

It also give a child a feeling of control over a dream to do something creative with it, for example, to draw the nightmare, and alternately, to draw the positive continuation of it that they invent.

Let your child know she is not alone with this, that lots of children have similar types of dreams. It's also empowering to read children stories in which characters confront frightening things like *Where the Wild Things Are* and *Alice in Wonderland*.

Following the revelations about Swiss banks, attention is now turning to other supposedly neutral countries. Semy Kahan reports from Stockholm

COULD Sweden, like Switzerland, be hoarding the assets of Holocaust victims, and could the family bank of the well-known righteous gentle Raoul Wallenberg be at the heart of the matter?

These are questions which, following the recent publicity about the hoarding of Nazi-looted Jewish gold by Swiss banks, are now being raised about other countries which were supposedly neutral during the war, notably Sweden.

The Swedish press, which has devoted extensive coverage to the Swiss part of this issue, has paid little attention to the possible Swedish role in the matter. However, an economic daily in Stockholm published an article two months ago that hinted at the possibility that some of the looted gold that reached Sweden might still be in the vaults of the Swedish central bank.

The Art of Cloaking Ownership - *The Case of Sweden*, a book written by two Dutch researchers, Gerald Aalders and Coes Wiebes, which was published recently in English (although a shortened version appeared in Swedish in 1989) contains a detailed description of the economic transactions between Jakob and Marcus Wallenberg and the Germans during the war. They are uncles of the rescuer of Jews, Raoul Wallenberg.

The authors claim that the Wallenberg brothers played a double game between the Nazi regime and the Allied powers. Their conclusions are less than flattering to the Wallenbergs, who headed a huge economic empire in Sweden, including large corporations and banks with widespread international connections. The Dutch researchers cite various transactions in their book, made by the Enskilde Bank, owned by the

Sweden said to be hoarding Nazi-looted gold



Wallenbergs, which included looted Jewish property from countries under German occupation.

According to their information there were, among others, transactions of gold between Germany and Sweden during the war, which according to official American sources were worth a total of \$21.6 million. This gold had been looted from Jews and central banks in Nazi-occupied countries. In 1946 Marcus Wallenberg told British diplomats that Enskilde Bank had purchased looted bonds and other securities.

The Dutch authors claim that most of these assets belonged to Jews. The publication of their book resulted in much criticism in Sweden. One of the authors, Aalders, said that at their suggestion the bank promised to send them their counterarguments in writing, but the bank has refrained from doing so until today.

Although the publication of the book in Swedish aroused a lot of reaction and comments concerning the role of the Wallenberg brothers during the war, the discussion that followed did not delve into the claims made by its authors concerning looted Jewish assets and the part played by Swedish banks in dealing with them.

However, a former Swedish diplomat, Sven Fredrik Hedén, displayed interest in the Jewish assets unclaimed after the Holocaust. "My decision to investigate this question was taken by chance," he said. "A few years ago I read a book about economic fiction and a footnote aroused my curiosity and gave me the first lead on the issue of Jewish wartime property."

"Today I know about assets, at least a part of them owned by Jews, which during the war were smuggled into Sweden through various channels, some of them over the Danish and Norwegian borders."

Hedén says he has information about dormant bank accounts in Sweden which contain gold, money deposits, securities and so

on. He is focusing on accounts owned by Jews. Hedén says his investigation is now nearing completion, but the delicacy of the stage it is at means he cannot presently reveal the detailed information he has unearthed. Hedén searched for relevant documents in a number of Swedish archives, including the National Archive. He is optimistic that he will be able to uncover the truth about this delicate issue.

What is clear is that the documents in the National Archive in Stockholm contain a considerable number of Jewish-sounding names, listed by unclaimed assets in Swedish banks. The legal adviser of the Swedish Bank Inspection Authority, Hans Schodin, says that he has no knowledge of this issue, because until now no interested party has come forward and therefore they saw no reason to investigate the matter. But he stressed that if a formal application was made, they would initiate a thorough investigation, probably in a similar manner to that currently being carried out in Switzerland. Two people who have in the past had contact with the economic empire of the Wallenberg family made a strenuous attempt to deny any knowledge about the matter when approached by this reporter. But it seems to be that "there is no smoke without fire" in this matter.

The director general of the Israel office of the World Jewish Congress, Avi Becker, announced that the WJC has decided to open an investigation into the Swedish connection.

The WJC was previously involved in the 1960s in negotiations with the Swedish Banking Association concerning Jewish bank deposits in Sweden that were made before the war, mainly from other Baltic countries, most of which were not reclaimed after the war.

There was a wide gap between the amounts that the banks were prepared to pay and the amounts that, according to reliable sources, were held by the banks. For this reason, the WJC was at that time opposed to a settlement, but the Organization of Jewish Survivors in Sweden wished to close the matter and a settlement was made in 1974 according to the terms dictated by the banks.

The WJC now intends to clarify what happened with the assets that remained in the possession of the banks, which were in 1974 valued at around 2 million Swedish krona (NIS 4 million). In a change of policy, the Jewish community in Sweden has now decided to support a comprehensive investigation on this issue.

Netanyahu feels at home under the golden arches

PRIME MINISTER Benjamin Netanyahu, who in the eyes of many symbolizes the Americanization of Israel, even though it was one of his predecessors, Golda Meir, who spoke Hebrew with an American accent, has unwittingly become an endorsement for one of the most visible signs of the American influence on the Israeli lifestyle. *Ha'aretz*, which ran an in-depth story on him in its weekend magazine last Friday, showed him on the hustings against the backdrop of the golden arches of McDonald's. He should ask for commission and donate it to the social welfare budget.

BECAUSE HER marriage to international television executive Farrell Meisell necessitates her living abroad, Vered Kollek has found herself commuting between wherever he is stationed and her home in Jerusalem. When they resided in New York, she came home at least four times a year. Now that they've moved to London, she's become a more frequent flyer. But on this current visit, she's still commuting, this time between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv - to finalize the editing of her mystery thriller which rumor has it may be adapted by Hollywood.

YOU'VE COME a long way baby. In the early days of the state, smelling of the sweat of one's

labors was almost a status symbol. But as the citizenry became more affluent and refined, it took to more pleasant fragrances, and now, according to Antonin Carreau, export area manager for Guerlain of Paris, Israel is, on a per-capita basis, one of the leading perfume markets in the world. Carreau was here for the Israel launch of his company's new fragrance, "Champs Elysees," the 324th in Guerlain's long history. The investment in the October-November global launch of Champs Elysees, Carreau disclosed at a gala dinner in Tel Aviv's Dan Panorama Hotel, is \$60 million. So that's what they mean by the sweet smell of success.

WHO SAYS that Jewish philanthropy is on the wane? Andrea Bronfman of Canada and Sassie Propper of Israel last week unveiled the honor board of Beth Hatefutot's 100 Club. All the donors listed had given at least \$30,000 to the Museum of the Jewish Diaspora. Donors included Judy and Avi Tsimkin, Simla and Leon Kezant, Michele and Robert Assaraf of Morocco, Mendel and Jill Caplan, Irit and Jonathan Kolber, Kuti and Yuli Ofer and Falgie and Rubin Zimmerman. The large number of American donors included Edgar Bronfman and Ronald Lauder, who have each given extensively

GRAPEVINE GREER FAY CASHMAN

to a variety of projects in Israel. The 100 Club was initiated 10 months ago and, according to Kolber, it represents "a partnership between the philanthropic communities of Israel and the Diaspora."

IN ISRAEL as a guest of the Tel Aviv Museum, celebrated French actress Anouk Aimée revealed that she's a "member of the tribe" and that her original name was Nicole Françoise Judith Dreyfus.

THE SIGHT of a huge gathering of women in Tel Aviv was more daunting than the battlefield to Air Force Commander Major-General Eitan Ben-Eliahu. He had taken part in many air battles in Israel's wars, he told delegates at British WIZO's triennial conference headed by Ruth Sotnick, "but believe me, I found them less alarming than standing before you this evening."

HE MIGHT be a bacon-and-eggs man at home, but when he's travel-

ing, Britain's Prince Charles is extremely cautious about what he has for breakfast. On a recent visit to Kyrgyzstan, the prince was served the national dish for breakfast - horse meat. A keen equestrian, and like most members of the royal family a lover of horses, the prince diplomatically declined, explaining that he doesn't eat meat for breakfast. Sometimes, it's just easier to be kosher.

AGELESS FILMSTAR Raquel Welch, whose plastic surgeons keep her eternally young, has taken up with a new beau. The gorgeous, 56-year-old redhead with the silicon uplift has the Hollywood gossips gasping in envy.

Her current heart-throb is British boxing champion Gary Starch, who is 25 years her junior. Aside from her sex appeal, Welch is a multi-millionaire, which is an attraction in itself.

WOW, THE tape of marital bliss is better than the alleged Bibi-tape, made in his pre-PM days when he was sowing his extramarital wild oats. But in the case of *Baywatch*

beauty Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee, his husband of two years, the tape of their love-making is the very cause of the breakup of their marriage. Pamela threatened that she would leave Tommy if the tape was ever made public, and since it somehow found its way to *Penthouse*, Pamela has let Tommy know in no uncertain terms that their differences are indeed irreconcilable, and that the divorce papers are on the way. She's also seeking custody of their five-month-old son Brandon.

PRETTY WOMAN: Julia Roberts who shared a long romance with John Kennedy Jr in the days when he was still considered one of America's most eligible bachelors caused a flurried between John John and his wife Carolyn.

Soon after returning from their honeymoon, the newlyweds threw a party for those of their friends who had not been at the wedding. John John invited Julia. A less than



Head of British WIZO Ruth Sotnick (center) is flanked by Helena Glaser and Air Force Commander Eitan Ben-Eliahu.

happy Carolyn insisted that she come with a man of her own.

REVLON TO the rescue, or at least Revlon chairman Ronald Perleman who has just signed a contract with the debt-ridden Duchess of York, which may well

put her back in a state of solvency. Revlon is putting out a new fragrance called "Fergie," which according to Perleman will be marketed primarily in the US.

It is not intended for the British market, where it might put a few royal noses out of joint.

FLORA OF ISRAEL

BEAUTIFUL PLANTS OF THE BIBLE
From the hyssop to the mighty cedar, over 100 kinds of foliage mentioned in the Bible, photographed in color and described by Dr. David Darom. Softcover album, 47 pp.
JP Price NIS 25.00

300 WILD FLOWERS OF ISRAEL
More than 140 colorful pages of 300 wild flowers, described and photographed in their native sites. Although not close to cataloging the entire range of wild flowers in this country, Azaria Alon does provide a wide sampling of Israel's flora. Conveniently indexed by color. Softcover, spiral bound, fits in a backpack. Published by SPNI.
JP Price NIS 55.00

Both Titles - NIS 75.00 - Prices include VAT, P&H in Israel

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

Please send me:
 Beautiful Plants of Israel 300 Wild Flowers of Israel Both Titles
 Enclosed is my check for NIS _____ payable to The Jerusalem Post,
 or credit card details.
 VISA ISRACARD DINERS Exp.
 CC No. _____
 Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Code _____
 Tel (day) _____ ID No. _____
 Signature _____

BIBLE LANDS MUSEUM JERUSALEM

SATURDAY NIGHT CONCERT

"Ethno Contemporary Improvisations"

Jean-Claude Jones - Live Electronics
Boris Sekhon - Percussion & Vocals

November 30
Concert at 20:30
Wine and Cheese at 20:00

Admission NIS 35; NIS 30 to Museum members, olim; students, soldiers & seniors.
Proceeds benefit The Jerusalem Post Funds.

Next concert, December 7: "Ensemble Beseraba" Klezmer, lively Eastern European Jewish music

25 Grand St. Jerusalem, Tel: 02-5611065

Give a Special Gift for the Holidays

Share The Jerusalem Post with a friend, relative or colleague

Give a gift of The Jerusalem Post International Edition, the paper that will keep a dear friend or loved one informed about Israel and The Middle East. The unmatched coverage includes news and analysis of all important events and changes.

The Jerusalem Post International Edition keeps you up with current affairs and special features every week. Written and edited in Israel, it is the direct line to the homeland and offers the convenience of air-mail delivery. No other international publication can offer that, 52 weeks a year!

As the holidays grow near, why not take the perfect opportunity to give the perfect gift? Subscribe now!

Order one full year - 52 weekly issues - for just NIS 299.00*, payable in three equal installments of NIS 100 each.

* For orders outside the USA and Europe please add an additional NIS 30 for air-mail costs.

Yes! Please start a one year (52 weeks) subscription to The Jerusalem Post International Edition for NIS 299 (payable in 3 equal installments of NIS 100 each).

Send to:
 Name _____
 Address / Apt _____
 City / State / Zip _____
 Country _____
 From:
 Name _____
 Address / Apt _____
 City / Zip _____
 Tel. _____

Checks are enclosed, payable to The Jerusalem Post
 Please charge my: ISRACARD VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS DINERS EXP.
 Card no. _____
 Signature _____

Send orders to: The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000
 For fast service: Call: 02-531-5649
 Fax: 02-538-9017
 e-mail: subs@jpost.co.il

THE JERUSALEM POST
International Edition

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Wednesday, November 27, 1996

Avner insurer lacks sufficient capital to stay in market

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

AVNER, the compulsory car insurance company, does not have sufficient capital to operate in the field, based on the Supervisor of Insurance regulations, according to the Gabai and Partners accountancy firm's evaluation of the company.

The accountancy firm was asked to examine the firm, on behalf of Amitai, the non-profit organization to protect citizens' rights. Amitai commissioned the examination in light of the Ministry of Finance intention to renew the law which authorizes Avner's existence. Amitai has also appealed to Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair on the issue.

Avner currently handles all compulsory car insurance, which includes all claims for personal injury.

The Gabai report concludes that Avner has accumulated a deficit of NIS 780m, Israel Radio revealed yesterday. To meet the Supervisor of Insurance capital regulations, the company's capital must

reach at least \$55m. The implications of the report are that Avner has been operating illegally for many years, and that it will be very difficult extending its operating license in this situation, said an insurance source yesterday.

Avner could not be reached for comment.

Earlier this month, Supervisor of Monopolies Yoram Turbovich told the Knesset he had been forbidden by Ben-Yair to give them his professional opinion as to whether Avner constituted an illegal restraint of trade.

At the meeting, Law Committee chairman Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) proposed to renew Avner's license for one year only, during which time the government would have to come up with a serious proposal for opening compulsory car insurance to competition. According to Yahalom, Avner violates the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation, and might also constitute illegal restraint of trade.

Experts to gov't: Don't retreat from options plan

DAVID HARRIS

THE previous government's so-called "options plan," which meant to sell state assets to the general public through a voucher scheme, is perfectly workable, and the Netanyahu government should reconsider its apparent rejection of it, economists who spoke yesterday in a Jerusalem seminar agreed.

Professor Dan Galai of Sigma PCM consultants, who during yesterday's closing sessions at the Hebrew University-Koret Foundation seminar on privatization and the capital markets, urged all interested parties, including academics and politicians, to "reopen the debate on options."

The "options plan," pioneered in the Czech Republic, and proposed in Israel by former finance minister Avraham Shohat is not a favored privatization method with the new government.

The program involves distributing to the public free options vouchers that could be used to purchase a package of shares in firms that stand to be privatized, before they are floated in various local and foreign financial markets.

"The markets will cope with this

scheme," said Galai. "The money doesn't go to a small controlling group. It means all of Israel can benefit."

Addressing the seminar on Monday night, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu failed to include the "options plan" in his list of preferred methods of hiring-off state assets. Currently, Netanyahu is examining three other possibilities: Public flotation on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, flotation on foreign markets, and selling the controlling share. Netanyahu said he favors a mixture of all three alternatives.

Support for the "options plan" also came yesterday from Hebrew University economists Dr. Avi Ben-Bassat - who said he favors all forms of privatization - and Professor David Levihari.

While the experts agreed much of the privatization process could be handled via flotations on the TASE, they differed over the timing. Professor Amir Barnea, a member of the Brodet committee on reforming the capital markets, said it would be impossible to launch pub-

lic flotations while the markets are in such a poor state. He also questioned the government's motives for wanting some privatization to take place in Tel Aviv. "Is the market appropriate for privatization at the moment, or is privatization seen as a way of returning the markets to health?" asked Barnea. "I don't see the current capital markets as appropriate for privatization."

However, other speakers, including Ben-Bassat and Galai, said it could be done now.

Galai pointed out that current liquid assets on the TASE total some NIS 540 billion. With each company being sold at a maximum of NIS 20 billion, Galai does not envisage any problems in coping with the relatively small additional volume.

Meanwhile, Shohat (yesterday challenged Netanyahu to stick to his word and implement his privatization pledges. "They said there would already be privatization in September, we've gone through October, and almost into December," said Shohat. "To my great sorrow I cannot address Netanyahu's words with any seriousness."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Bezeq is in the final stage of installing \$3.5 million worth of computerized equipment that allows 166 operators to determine the cause of malfunctioning phone lines and technicians to initiate an "early diagnosis" of problems even before the customer has noticed them. It even advises repair teams on how to fix the breakdowns. The project, called Bahaan 2000, is being carried out by Digital computers and the Compro software company.

Additional, more sophisticated parts can be attached to the new equipment in the future, Bezeq Director-General Yizhak Kaul said. According to Digital, the system was developed specifically for Bezeq and will be put to its exclusive use.

Meanwhile, Bezeq's purchasing committee has chosen the American Management System company for establishing a new collections system; the sub-contractor will be Formula, a local company. The complicated system will allow calculations of various rates for phone services and charges by other suppliers. Kaul said it would help Bezeq compete with private companies and reduce reaction time to competitors' special offers. Judy Siegel

Finance Committee supports increasing Tourism Ministry's budget: The Knesset Finance Committee said yesterday that it would support the Tourism Ministry's request for extra money to launch a massive publicity campaign to combat the sharp drop in tourism this year. The ministry wants NIS 6 million added to its budget for this purpose. It also will contribute NIS 3m. from other items in its existing budget. A vote on the request, like all the other budgetary votes, will be held only in a few weeks, however. Evelyn Gordon

Oil Refineries moves into red despite massive layoffs

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

Oil Refineries Ltd., Israel's third largest company, announced a sharp drop in earnings and a shift from profit to loss in the third quarter of the year, despite the company's implementation of a development program and the retirement of 250 workers.

The state owned manufacturer of petroleum products, lubrication oils, and bitumen reported a third quarter net loss of NIS 6.67 million compared with a net profit of NIS 29.4m. in the corresponding period last year.

In the first nine months of the year, net earnings plunged to NIS 1.65m. compared with a net profit of NIS 81.1m. in the same period in 1995.

Management blamed the drop on the continued erosion of the dollar currency rate compared with the shekel, and the drop in prices of petrochemical industry products. Management said prices have declined 10% of percent in the reported period.

Key factors which led to the decrease in earnings included a sharp drop in subsidiary companies engaged in the petrochemicals field to NIS 55m. compared with NIS 224m. in the first nine months of last year.

The lower results were partly offset by an improvement in the refining sector. In the first nine months of the year, the sector reported losses of NIS 39m. compared with NIS 153m. in the same period in 1995.

"Despite the improvement in the refining sector on international markets, compared with the same period last year, the export profitability remains low and Oil Refineries was forced to reduce refining to a level which will meet the supply of the local market, sign export contracts, and balance the basket of products," said the company.

Zim Israel Navigation Company completed the third quarter with a net loss of \$6.3m. compared with a net profit of NIS 5.3m. in the same period last year.

The company concluded the first nine months of the year with a net loss of \$2.1m. as compared to a net profit of \$8.8m. in the same period last year.

The third quarter loss is after a provision for taxes in the amount of \$2.3m. while the nine month loss is after a provision of \$6.3m.

Operating profit before expenses fell to \$22.8m. in the first three

quarters of the year compared with \$39.7m. in the same period last year, a decrease of 42.6%.

The number of containers carried by the company in the reported period reached 668,400 TEUs as compared to 651,300 TEUs in the same period last year, an increase of 2.6%. Despite the increase, the total income from shipping and related services fell 1.8% to \$1.08b from \$1.07b. last year.

"The decrease in income, derives from a growing erosion in freight rates in most of the trade areas, due to fierce competition in the Israeli trade as well as in the international one," said management.

Zim said the competition is mainly due to a growing gap between the supply of space and demand of cargo volumes in all trade areas.

"This gap lately escalated in the whole industry as a result of the introduction of large vessels; which were ordered on the basis of forecasts showing a substantial increase in the main trading areas between countries - a forecast which has not materialized," said management.

Management said the over capacity experienced by large container shipping companies, which mainly operate in the East-West route, caused them to enter secondary trade areas like Israel "in order to fill their cargo volume potential," said management, adding that this has caused a notable erosion in the freight rates.

Israel Discount Bank reported a 48.8% growth in net profit for the third quarter of 1996, to NIS 81.6m., compared with NIS 54.9m. in the corresponding period last year.

Net income for the first nine months of the year rose 11% to NIS 217.7m. compared with NIS 196.1m. in the same period last year. Net return on equity on an annual basis rose to 7.7% at the end of September compared with 7.3% for all of last year.

In the financial reports, management said the bank has requested the government to assist in publishing a prospectus, in February 1997, for a public offering of part of the shares held by the State. The bank has decided to raise, concurrently with the government's offering, up to NIS 300m., by issuing subordinated capital notes to the public in Israel. Management said this will expand its operational base and improve its capital ratio.

UBS restructures in home market, takes 1996 loss

ZURICH (Reuters) - Union Bank of Switzerland, the nation's biggest bank, yesterday said it would take a one-time charge of three billion Swiss francs (\$2.32 billion) to cover rising loan risks from the stagnant Swiss economy, causing a net loss for 1996.

UBS also said it would cut 800 jobs or 3.7 percent of its Swiss workforce as part of a domestic restructuring plan aimed at cutting costs and boosting profitability in its economically weak but over-banked home market. It said a provision of SFr120 million would be taken for Swiss restructuring, including reducing regional centers from 31 to 8, centralizing securities trading and shutting 30 small branches from a national network of 295.

UBS, the last of Switzerland's "Big Three" banks to unveil major domestic changes this year, said it would post a 1996 loss of about SFr500 million rather than a net profit of 1.8b. due to the charge for risky loans and the restructuring costs.

"Despite the loss... our shareholders will receive an unchanged dividend," chief executive Mathis Caballavetta told a news conference. "On top of this, they can be sure that group results will be significantly stronger in the years ahead as new, unexpected provisions will no longer be a restraint on earnings," he added.

UBS shares fell after the announcement, dropping SFr35 to 1,235 late in the day, as investors

who had speculated on more spectacular cutbacks sold off. The news had a wider impact by helping the Swiss franc hit 21-month lows against the dollar and 20-month lows against the mark on reaction to UBS's pessimistic view of the Swiss economy. Caballavetta, who took over as CEO last April, said he expected a return to "good growth" in profits next year, including added earnings of around SFr200m. a year expected from a more efficient Swiss structure.

UBS posted a group net profit in 1995 of SFr1.673b. In April it rejected a merger proposal from CS Holding that would have produced the world's second biggest bank after Japan's Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd.

Caballavetta said the complex transaction around the one-time charge, including using SFr711m. in reserves to reduce the net loss, would pull group equity down to SFr21.5b. at the end of 1996, from 23b. at the end of 1995.

Caballavetta said the charge of three billion francs was meant to cover projected loan risks for the next two or three years and should stabilize annual provisions at around SFr500m. from 1997. Ordinary provisions for bad loans this year would total SFr1.4b., in addition to the three billion charge.

UBS's steps followed more drastic plans unveiled by rivals CS Holding and Swiss Bank Corp to cope with an oversupply of retail banking in the small Swiss market and mounting loan risks after six years of virtually zero growth in the Swiss economy.

All three banks have a booming global business in asset management and investment banking but saw those profits being cut by high costs for Swiss retail business and exploding provisions for risky Swiss loans.

"Given the gloomy prospects for the future (of the Swiss economy), we are now being forced to make provisions for customers who, only a short while ago, were considered to be absolutely creditworthy and solvent," Caballavetta said.

OPEN INVITATION FOR TENDERS FOR THE GAZA INDUSTRIAL ESTATE - PALESTINE

The Gaza Industrial Estate Project is being developed by PADICO. The European Investment Bank and the International Finance Corporation (along with a number of international financial institutions) have been approached to consider a long-term financing facility for the project.

The Palestine Development and Investment Ltd. (PADICO) invites all specialized contractors to bid for the following tenders:

- SITE INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES (PHASE 1):**
Scope of work is for an approximate area of 250,000 sq.m. and includes the following:
a- All site roads.
b- Water distribution networks (potable, brackish and fire fighting).
c- Sewage and storm water drainage networks.
d- Electricity and telecommunications networks.
- SUPPLY, ASSEMBLY AND ERECTION OF STEEL STRUCTURE AND FINISHES FOR STANDARD FACTORY BUILDINGS:**
Scope of work: Supply, assembly and erection of 24 standard steel factory buildings of 24 meters x 48 meters each. (Total approximate area = 27700 sq.m.) Work includes all civil work finishes, and all electromechanical articles inside the factory buildings. Foundations and concrete ground floors are not included in this contract.
- CONSTRUCTION OF ADMINISTRATION COMPLEX BUILDINGS:**
Scope of work: Complete construction of conventional R.C. concrete skeleton buildings with all finishes, including all electromechanical works:
a- Administration building - ground floor only, approximate total area = 1145 sq.m.
b- Two-story fire station building, approximate total area = 1035 sq.m.
c- Two-story clinic and gymnasium buildings, approximate total area = 675 sq.m.
d- One-story police station building, approximate total area = 225 sq.m.
e- One-story bank and PTT office building, approximate total area = 320 sq.m.

The client (PADICO) has the full right to exclude from the contract before signing the agreement, some or all of the above-mentioned amenity buildings (b, c, d, e).

The tender documents are available at PADICO offices in Gaza or Amman at the following addresses:

Gaza:
PADICO
Al-Rasheed Street, Gaza Beach
P.O. Box 4048, Gaza - Remal
Tel. (972-7) 826313/826323
Fax. (972-7) 826013

OR

Amman:
PADICO Regional Office
1st Circle, Astra Building, 3rd floor
P.O. Box 6181, Amman 11118, Jordan
Tel. (962-6) 647837/8/9
Fax. (962-6) 630451

Bids for each of the above tenders should be submitted in two sealed separate envelopes, as follows:
a) Technical proposals for pre-qualification
b) Financial proposal

The technical pre-qualification proposals will be opened first and evaluated. The financial proposals of disqualified bidders will be returned to them unopened.

The last date set for the purchase of the tender documents is 2 p.m. on December 7, 1996.

The tenders are to be submitted to the PADICO offices not later than 2 p.m. on January 5, 1997.

The price of each set of the above tenders is 300 US dollars (non-refundable).

PALESTINE DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT LTD. (PADICO)
GENERAL MANAGER

"A fax for you"
All you want to know about your accounts, on your fax, within 15 minutes.
15 minutes and you're gone...
ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patrah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	5.000	5.375
Found sterling (£100,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.825	1.825	2.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.625	0.750	1.000
Yen (10 million yen)	-	-	-

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (26.11.96)

CURRENCY AND TRANSFERS	CHECKS AND BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates*
	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	3.6103	3.6696	3.6378
U.S. dollar	3.2141	3.2680	3.2429
German mark	2.1102	2.1443	2.1262
French franc	6.8225	6.8675	6.8477
Japanese yen (100)	2.8596	2.9058	2.8828
Dutch guilder	1.8807	1.9111	1.8963
Swiss franc	0.4925	0.5082	0.5004
Swedish krona	2.4820	2.5282	2.5054
Norwegian krona	0.5001	0.4903	0.4950
Denmark krona	0.5495	0.5594	0.5541
Finnish mark	0.7011	0.7126	0.7069
Caribbean dollar	2.8015	2.8429	2.8247
Australian dollar	0.8987	0.9100	0.8944
S. African rand	1.0235	1.0401	1.0318
Belgian franc (10)	2.9888	3.0470	2.9709
Austrian schilling (10)	2.1258	2.1601	2.1430
Italian lira (1000)	4.4700	4.5291	4.5000
Jordanian dinar	0.9100	0.9215	0.9158
Egyptian pound	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Irish punt	5.3804	5.4672	5.4238
Spanish peseta (100)	2.5088	2.5471	2.5280

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

When You Need The Best Contacts In Israel - New 1996 Editions

Over 1000 contacts in...

- National Government
- Key Municipalities
- Top Foreign Embassy and Consulate Staffs
- Major Political Parties
- Largest Government Companies
- Major Business Organizations & Associations
- Biographies of all Knesset Members

JP Special: NIS 108.00

Over 1000 contacts in...

- Advertising
- Public Relations
- Marketing
- Market Research
- Broadcast & Print Media
- Cable TV
- Major Israeli Advertisers
- Key Statistics
- English-Hebrew Marketing Glossary

JP Special: NIS 108.00

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000 Tel 02-6241282

Please send me

- Israel Business & Government Directory: NIS 108
- Israel Marketing & Media Directory: NIS 108
- Both Directories: NIS 199.00

Enclosed is my check, payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:

Visa Isracard Dinars

CC No. _____ Exp. _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Code _____

Tel. _____ ID No. _____

Signature _____

Special for Both Directories: NIS 199

TASE drops for second day

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



Two-Sided Index

Maof Index

STOCKS dropped for a second day after the Central Bank left interest rates unchanged, dashing investor hopes of a boost for the economy and the shekel market.

Across the Tel Aviv Stock

FTSE hits record, then drops back

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - British stocks ended well below their early highs yesterday as early Wall Street losses coupled with a series of tax measures in the British budget dragged the market below its early record levels.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

Volatile Dow drops on profit-taking

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks closed moderately lower Tuesday after scrambling their way back up from steep losses as investors cashed in some profits from the market's run into record territory.

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 19.38 points at 6,528.41, one day after rising through 6,500 for the first time and setting its 11th record in the last 12 sessions.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

PARIS - French shares ended with modest losses, after a round of profit-taking, traders said. The market had been looking to consolidate after recent strong rises.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Two-sided trading

Table of stock prices and changes for various sectors including Commercial Banks, Mortgage Banks & Finance, Financial Institutions, Insurance, Trade & Services, Property, Building & Agriculture, and Oil Exploration.

Key Representative Rates table showing U.S. Dollar, Sterling, and German mark rates.

NYSE STOCK MARKETS table with columns for Last and Change.

New York market indexes table listing DJ Industrial, DJ 30, NYSE, etc.

NYSE stocks table listing various stock symbols and their prices.

Other stock market indexes table including FTSE 100, Nikkei, etc.

Israeli stocks in US table listing companies like Amstar, etc.

NYSE / AMEX / NASDAQ / OTC table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

AG Associates table listing various stock symbols.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK logo and name.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices for various countries including New York, London, Frankfurt, etc.

INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

Table of dollar crossrates for various currencies.

Labor rates

Table of labor rates for various countries.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommsStock Trading Ltd.

Text describing foreign financial data services.

INTERNATIONAL COMMODITIES

US commodities

Table of US commodity prices.

London commodities

Table of London commodity prices.

Spot market metals (US)

Table of spot market metal prices.

New York metal futures

Table of New York metal futures prices.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Table of currency cross-rates for various currencies.

OTTAWA

Text about Ottawa's foreign attention and historical context.

Continued from Page 1

have devoted from page articles to Rabin's findings and the reaction they sparked from government officials and Jewish community leaders.

The CJC, which represents Canada's 360,000 Jews, welcomed the foreign attention to Ottawa's dubious record in pursuing the estimated 3,000 Nazi war criminals who entered the country following World War II.

Attorney: Police trying to prevent retrial in Danny Katz case

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE are doing everything possible to prevent a retrial on the murder of Danny Katz, attorney Avigdor Feldman, who represents the five men now serving life sentences for the 1982 murder, charged yesterday.

Feldman said the police may be motivated by a desire to cover up mistakes made in the original investigation. Feldman also represents one of the convicted men's brother, who was detained Monday for allegedly fabricating evidence to secure their release.

Police said the brother, Hassan Atad-Ganayim, and a second suspect who also was detained on Monday, attorney Amin Badarna, presented investigators with a false statement from a convict who claimed that he and several other men had killed Katz, and not those now being held.

"We have been fighting for their release and will continue to fight for their release," Feldman said.

He said that he has spoken with the convict and rejects police allegations that the man was coerced into taking credit for the crime.

Katz, a young boy, was found

raped and murdered in 1982 in a wadi near the Galilee village of Sakmin. Five Arabs from the area were convicted, largely on the basis of confessions they maintain to this day were signed under pressure from police.

A senior police source involved in the renewed investigation strongly rejected Feldman's accusations. The source said investigators took the statement presented to them just last month very seriously, but that it simply proved to be false.

"There is no question that the statement is false. That isn't to say that other evidence might not be found that will justify a retrial," the source said. "There are still several points that we are looking into."

Asked what motivated the convicted man who gave the statement, the source replied, "Let's just say pressure."

Last night a magistrate's court judge on Rehovot remanded Ganayim until noon today and left police with the option to ask for an extension. Police will also likely ask for Badarna to continue to be held.



Outgoing president of the Military Court of Appeals Maj-Gen. Ben-Zion Farhi speaks at a press conference yesterday marking his retirement from the IDF after 31 years' service.

Outgoing top IDF judge: Neither parents nor officers influence army courts

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THE IDF's top judge defended the military justice system yesterday, saying it was an independent body not influenced by either bereaved parents of soldiers killed in training accidents who want senior officers tried and punished, or the IDF brass who oppose this.

"There is criticism from both sides and perhaps this is a sign that the military justice system is making its considerations in the best professional way," said.

He also dismissed charges that the army was quick to court-martial senior officers involved in training accidents. He said each case was carefully scrutinized and charges were filed only after military prosecutors were convinced that a reasonable officer would have behaved differently.

"The military prosecutors have authority to make decisions without any connection with the military system or commanders," Farhi said.

Farhi said that cases dealing with training acci-

dents involving fatalities received top priority, and assured that the military investigation also helped derive lessons from the mishaps. "The main desire of the army is to learn from the mistakes in order to prevent them in the future," Farhi said.

"We also have to have the courage to close a file when there is no evidence, even if someone doesn't like it," Farhi said.

Farhi said the bulk of court-martials dealt with soldiers avoiding military duty, but added that there was a dramatic increase in the number of them being tried for drug use. In the first 10 months of 1996, 415 cases have come to court, compared to only 361 in all of 1995. In 1994, the number was even less. "To my regret, the trend today is to an increase in drug use," Farhi said.

Unlike the police who focus on dealers, army courts are out to prosecute anyone caught using

drugs, even for the first time.

"Even refusing to submit to a drug test is a crime," Farhi said. "I hope the fact that they are brought to trial and the harsh punishment they receive halts this phenomena," said Farhi.

"We want to nip it in the bud," he said, adding that the courts were canceling the military driver's licenses of drug offenders.

There was also a 50 percent rise in the number of violent offenses, with 61 cases so far this year compared to 42 last year.

Sixty percent of the work is spent dealing with soldiers absent without leave, he said.

Last week it was announced that after a decade in his post and 31 years in the IDF, Farhi was to be replaced by Brig-Gen. Ilan Schiff, who as chief military prosecutor came under fire for not trying senior officers for the Tze'elim B training accident.

WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy with a chance of scattered showers.

AROUND THE WORLD

City	Low	High	Weather		
Amsterdam	01	24	09	cloudy	
Berlin	01	20	02	snow	
Buenos Aires	-15	09	28	79	clear
Calcutta	18	28	30	86	clear
Chicago	00	18	01	30	clear
Copenhagen	02	08	03	37	cloudy
Helsinki	02	08	03	37	cloudy
Hong Kong	22	29	28	79	clear
London	04	08	08	46	rain
Los Angeles	12	24	18	64	cloudy
Madrid	05	15	05	41	cloudy
Moscow	09	15	05	41	cloudy
New York	01	10	05	41	rain
Osaka	04	15	05	41	rain
Seoul	04	15	05	41	rain
Shanghai	08	15	05	41	rain
Singapore	24	30	27	81	rain
Tokyo	04	15	05	41	rain
Zurich	02	08	03	37	rain

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sharon plans to resettle 50,000 Negev Beduin
Israel wants to move 50,000 Beduin from their tent encampments in the southern Negev and resettle them in five or six new towns, a spokesman for Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon said yesterday.

The resettlement could take 10 to 15 years, said spokesman Ra'anan Gissin, adding that many Beduin had settled illegally on state land. No one would be forced to move, he said.

Sharon has said he wanted to move more Jews to the Negev and the northern Galilee region, two areas with large Arab populations. More than 200,000 Beduin currently live in these areas.

(AP)

Court: Women's sports must get equal funding

A national committee should be appointed to establish and enforce guidelines ensuring that male and female sports groups get equal financial support from local councils, the High Court of Justice ruled yesterday.

The ruling was in response to a petition the Israel Women's Network and the Elitzur Holon basketball team filed. It is an important step toward rectifying the unequal funding male and female sports teams get, said attorney Rivka Meller-Olshtitzky, who represented the IWV.

American Jewish activists petition Interior Ministry against banned entry of two US Jews

EVELYN GORDON

SOME 350 American Jewish activists from across the country submitted a petition to the Interior Ministry yesterday against the min-

istry's policy of forbidding American Jews suspected of links with Kach to visit the country.

The petition was submitted following a petition to the High Court of Justice last week by two American Jews banned under this policy: Shelly Benveniste, 49, of Miami, and Hillel Blaustein, 41, of Philadelphia.

Benveniste, who writes and edits for *The Jewish Press* in Miami, is a long-time pro-Israel activist active in her local Jewish community. She has often come here in the past, both to visit family and friends and for work. She is an outspoken critic of the Oslo Accords.

Blaustein, a CPA, is also both a long-time pro-Israel activist and well known in his local Jewish community. He also has family here, and

represents several American software companies that do business here, requiring frequent visits.

"The Law of Return has always been a sacred trust between the government of Israel and the generation that has followed the Holocaust," the public petition to the ministry said.

"To tamper with this hallowed obligation violates a fundamental commitment... We the undersigned demand that this horrendous policy of barring Jews from Israel based on their political ideas, or any other reason, be rescinded immediately. It is an extremely dangerous precedent, and can have grave and serious consequences to all of the Jewish people."

The petition to the court, meanwhile, argued that the ministry's decision was unreasonable on several fronts.

Freij hospitalized for kidney malfunction

BETHLEHEM Mayor Elias Freij was in stable condition yesterday after suffering from kidney malfunction.

Freij was admitted last Thursday to the intensive care unit at Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital and was expected to be released in several days, said spokesman Yossi Shoval.

Freij has been mayor of Bethlehem for 24 years and also serves as the Palestinian Authority minister of tourism.

Knesset panel to discuss immigrant athletes who falsely claimed to be Jewish

LIAT COLLINS

INTERIOR Minister Eli Suissa is threatening to boycott today's meeting of the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee, scheduled to discuss the case of weightlifter Valeriy Stepanchenko.

The ministry has issued a deportation order against Ivanovsky and is expected to issue one against Stepanchenko soon for entering the country and obtaining citizenship under false pretenses.

Ivanovsky represented Israel at the Atlanta Olympics, where he was embarrassingly unsuccessful. On his return, the press probed his past and found that his marriage to a Jew was fictitious and that certain documents had been forged. He is not Jewish.

Suissa wrote to committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal (Likud), accusing her of misusing the committee.

"At a time when the ministry is doing everything possible to limit the phenomenon of illegal entries to Israel, you are supporting someone who acted against the law and fraudulently gained immigrant status," he wrote.

Suissa said the ministry had acted above and beyond the call of duty when it delayed carrying out the deportation order because of Ivanovsky's written declaration that he would leave the country himself by November 29.

Blumenthal said the minister is obliged to appear before the Knesset committee and that the meeting is intended "to hear both sides of the story."

Tibi: Use evacuated settlements to house Palestinian refugees

AHMED Tibi, Yasser Arafat's adviser, has been quoted as discussing a plan whereby Jewish settlements evacuated under the permanent arrangements would not be torn down but would serve to house Palestinian refugees.

Channel 1 quoted Tibi last night as saying every additional home in the settlements would ultimately serve the Palestinians. The plan was raised at a symposium in Jerusalem over the weekend.

Liav Collins

WELTZALTN Weekends

Weekend Holiday Flights to Europe at Surprisingly Low Prices

The new **WELTZALTN** flights are designed to let you leave every care behind and enjoy a decidedly different weekend. A perfect break, enabling you to return to your daily routine refreshed, revitalized and full of energy. Your travel agent will be happy to tell you about the varied range of packages now available, including hotels and car rentals. Call today. Now it's worthwhile more than ever to fly **WELTZALTN** to a fabulous getaway in Europe. Bon voyage... have a wonderful weekend!

Athens	\$275
London	\$399
Rome	\$399
Milan	\$399
Amsterdam	\$429
Madrid	\$429
Munich	\$429
Paris	\$429
Geneva	\$449
Vienna	\$449
Prague	\$479
Budapest	\$499
Warsaw	\$499

Airtour
The Umbrella Organization of Israeli Travel Agencies
Contact Your Travel Agent
Subject to changes in conditions. Information available at all travel agencies.

REGULAR TOURS, HOTELS, PACKAGE DEALS

TRAVEL WITH THE EXPERTS

To JORDAN, EGYPT and ISRAEL

MIDDLE EAST EXPERTS

Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Qatar, Oman, Iraq

Exclusive Daily

SEASON'S SPECIAL
Rent a car • Hotels • Flight
Diving • Safari • Private tour

MAZADA TOURS

TEL-AVIV: 141 Ibn Gvirol St., Tel. 972-3-6444454, Fax. 972-3-5461928
JERUSALEM: Tel. 02-6236777, Fax. 02-6256458 HAIFA: 04-9624440

سكان من الأجر